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COUNCILLOR ACCUSED OF USING TOWN

Constituents treated with disdain, claims Labour rival

COUNTY councillor Julie Rook has been accused of using her Deal seat as a "stepping stone" in her pursuit of becoming an MP in another part of the country.

A report in the Wolverhampton Express & Star stated that Cllr Rook would give up her role representing Deal at County Hall should she win the Wolverhampton North East parliamentary seat for the Tories.

Mike Eddy, the Labour representative for Mill Hill ward on Dover

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

District Council and former group leader at KCC, said: "I think that Cllr Rook's constituents in Deal and Walmer will feel badly treated.

"She has used them as a stepping stone in her political ambitions and is treating them and the voters of Wolverhampton with disdain.

"The Conservatives in Deal knew she was standing in Wolverhampton before she stood as a county councillor and they are equally guilty of treating the electors with contempt."

Critics say that the cost to taxpayers

of hosting a by-election to replace Cllr Rook should she win in Wolverhampton could be as high as £39,000.

They are also asking if Cllr Rook would continue to claim the £13,000 basic allowance for a county councillor, plus the extra for being a deputy cabinet member and member of Dover district and Deal town councils.

Yourdeal asked Cllr Rook when, should she win in the Midlands, would be the earliest she would expect to stand down from her county role and if she would continue to claim a salary and expenses in the meantime.

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County councillor Julie Rook denies taking her electorate in Deal and Walmer for granted despite saying that she would stand down from the role if she won the parliamentary seat of Wolverhampton North East



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WHAT'S ON & WATCH Anger as harbour privatisation plans 'to be considered'

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

DOVER MP Gwyn Prosser has hit out at the harbour board's plans for privatisation and said he was "disappointed but not surprised" at the apparent turnaround.

Chief executive Bob Goldfield said this week that investment bids are being considered and discussions were taking place with the Depart-ment for Transport and the Treasury.

But Mr Prosser said the real motive had been hidden for too long and he would continue to oppose the plans and expected the Government not surprised that Dover Harbour Board have declared their wish to privatise the Port of Dover.

"It has always been my view that the chief executive has had ambitions to sell off the port ever since his appointment and he has now convinced the Board to support him.

"Mr Goldfield has consistently told us the port was an efficient and successful operation and his Board saw no advantage in seeking privatisation. But when he sold off most of his loyal workforce last year his real intentions became obvious.

"I've opposed privatisation ever since the Tories brought in the Ports Act in 1991, I oppose Dover Harbour Board's current bid and I expect the Government to reject it."

Security

Charlie Elphicke, Conservative parliamentary candidate for Dover said: "The Government gave a solemn promise they wouldn't sell it off, you just can't believe what they say anymore. We should be very careful about the security of our country and what we sell off, it's of grave con-cern. You wouldn't sell the Army."

A Government document about the nation's assets reveals the Port of Dover is the "furthest advanced" in developing its bid to be independent, with its turnover of £60.8 million topping a table of six eligible ports.



NOT SURPRISED: But MP Gwyn Prosser is disappointed by the privatisation proposals

It is currently held in trust and does not have any shareholders or owners, with all profits reinvested into maintenance and development.

Because spending on the port appears on the Department for Transport's balance sheet, the shake-up of public finances has reignited the issue and the Government is encouraging a review into its future.

The report said: "The Port of Dover expects freight traffic in particular to double over the next 30 years and believes investment in future capacity and facilities will be necessary in order to retain its position as the UK's primary roll-on/roll-off ferry port."

These include the building of a new

terminal with four berths, along with traffic regulation to ease congestion.

Chief executive Bob Goldfield said: "The board are minded to submit a scheme in the new year to bring in a private investor to the port but are considering the details of this with the department and the Treasury.

"This represents a major change in our relationship with the town and

district, providing for the first time the opportunity for the community to benefit financially from port activities, something not possible under our existing trust port status."

All systems go for high-speed **Javelin service**

HIGH-SPEED trains which bring Dover within just over an hour of London launch their full timetable this weekend, with services running

throughout the day.
Southeastern has been running a peak-time preview service from Ashford International to St Pancras since the summer, and this was later extended to include Dover Priory.

Passengers travelling on the new Javelin high-speed trains will be able to reach London in just over an hour, saving up to 47 minutes off the current journey time.

The Japanese-built trains can travel at up to 140 miles per hour and Southeastern says the new service will increase capacity by five per cent during peak hours in what is the largest change to the timetables in 40 years.

Managing director Charles Horton said: "This new timetable will help provide more choice for passengers, mean the full introduction of highspeed services and help us to continue to improve our performance levels.

"Once we've introduced the timetable we will monitor services closely and work with the Department For Transport to make any adjustments which are necessary."

Instrumental

The high-speed trains will run up to a half-hourly service from Sunday, including at peak times, seven days a week and alternate between direct routes and changing at Ashford.

District and county councillor Nigel Collor was instrumental in bringing the high-speed service to the district.

Initially, the Javelin trains were not going to stop in Dover, but after a tough battle Cllr Collor achieved his goal.

Speaking at the launch of the preview service in September, he said: "It is something we fought very hard for. We're now continuing our fight to try to get the running time down to less than an hour – I know it can be done."

Prices for the high-speed service are £32.70 for a single journey, £55.10 for a return and £114.40 for a weekly ticket. There will be supplements for existing ticket-holders.

Mainline journey prices are £28.30 for a single, £47 for a return, £29.60 for an off-peak return and £95 for a weekly ticket.

However, prices for some fares are expected to rise on January 2 as part of Southeastern's franchise agreement with the Government.

More information can be found at www.southeasternrailway.co.uk.

TWYFORD 550mm VANITY **UNIT AND BASIN**



Young poets inspired by their work in print

BY NICK AMES

A POETRY event held yesterday (Tuesday) brought together children from schools ranging from Capel-le-Ferne to Sandwich to celebrate the launch of a new book.

Smiles Of Poems contains some 600 original works from primary-school children.
Children's Poet Laureate Michael Rosen was

the guest of honour at the event at Dover Grammar School For Boys.

He is of the best-known figures in the children's book world and renowned for his work as a poet, performer, broadcaster and scriptwriter.

He lectures and teaches in universities on children's literature, reading and writing.

Mr Rosen is a familiar voice to BBC listeners and is currently presenting Word Of Mouth, the magazine programme that looks at the English language and the way we use it.

He was Laureate until June of this year.

Teresa Buckley, assistant head-teacher at Dover Grammar and who also works on community projects, said: "When we spoke to the children he was the one they wanted to see. They all said the same name - Michael Rosen.

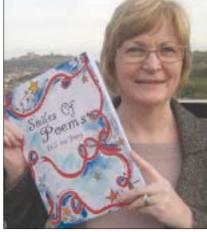
"The book is a way of inspiring the children as they start to sit their exams at the end of their

primary schooling.

"People say children do not read enough in this day and age, so I felt we needed to be proactive in encouraging them to do so.
"Those whose work was printed will get the

book in year six as they prepare for secondary-





PROJECT: Poet Michael Rosen and assistant head Teresa Buckley with the book of poetry put together by children

school life. What better way to inspire them than to see their words in print?

"They also got the opportunity to try out a different style of writing which I hope will give them more confidence when they approach

Children from across the region were encouraged to write on a variety of topics before the poems were collected by sixth-formers at the

They worked on laying out the book, while students at Dover Grammar School For Girls

designed the cover. The finished work is now available to buy from Sandwich Book Shop.

Mr Rosen has also contributed a foreword to

He stated: "Poetry belongs to everyone: anyone can write it.

"Sad to say, we live in a time when it's not always enough for everyone to find how enjoyable poetry is.

"Then along comes a project which proves that it's possible for the barriers to all be broken

Cyclist hunt after pavement fracas

POLICE investigating an incident in Pencester Road, Dover, in which a cyclist became violent after being challenged for riding on the pavement have released an efit of a man they want to trace.

It is alleged the man rode into an elderly pedestrian and then started arguing with others and pushed an 80-year-old woman between 10.30am and 11am on Wednesday, November 11.



The offender is described as a white man aged 20 to 25, 5ft 9in tall with straight dark brown hair and speaking with a Liverpool or Newcastle accent.

He was unshaven and wearing a white hooded top under a dark coat

Anyone with information is asked to phone PC Christine Arundell on 01304



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'I have no ego to feed'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE She responded: "Electoral cycles are volatile processes. During the course of a four-year cycle people die, suffer ill-health and move jobs.

"You can only deal with known circumstances and not speculate on what might be.

"There are always between 10 and 20 by-elections nationally at

any one time.
"I will keep the best interests of the people of Deal in the forefront of my mind and intentions. "Is Mike Eddy so downbeat and

defeatist that he has given Wolverhampton North East up? "I don't take the electorate for

granted. Perhaps that is why Mike lost his seat. "If he spent more time represent-

ing his voters rather than being concerned over my future, he might become an effective councillor.

"I have no ego to feed. I am a councillor because I want to make life better and make life fairer -

exactly the same reason that I want to be a Member of Parliament.

"My humble beginnings as the daughter of a milkman from Ramsgate will stand me in good stead."

Wolverhampton North East has been held by Labour MP Ken Purchase since 1992; he won a majority of 8,156 at the 2005 general election.

Cathedral packed as crowds say farewell to Bishop Stephen

HUNDREDS of people turned out for a ceremony at Canterbury Cathedral to bid farewell to the former Bishop of Dover and Bishop in Canterbury.

Dr Stephen retired after 10 years in the post but will continue his role as Bishop to the Forces

He has been replaced by Rev RtWilmott.

Clergy from across the Canterbury Diocese and representatives Christian organisations joined the Lord Lieut-

enant and the Lord Mayor of Canterbury in bidding Bishop Stephen farewell.

Tributes were paid by a range of people, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, who said Bishop Stephen was a "person of humanity, quality, intelligence and humility"

He added that their friendship had

been "very real and significant personally".

Rosalind Turner, managing director for children, families and education at

Kent County Council, said Bishop Stephen had "led from the front" and praised him for his work as a founding member of the Kent Children's Trust, as first pro-chancellor of Christ Church University and during his role with the Kent Strategic Partner-

During the service, Bishop Stephen said there was still much to do for

church communities

"We must ensure that what goes on in our churches speaks of God and ensure our lives reflect God's spirit," he said.

"I have had the most wonderful 10 years among you, relishing the love that we have shared with God and with each other inside and outside the church.

blue pigeon Come experience the difference in our Inn, Dining Halls, Lodgings. Were open this Sunday for pre-Christmas lunch at.... intelligent prices. Come and meet Marilyn & Ray and our fine new Chef Andrew Johnson Have a lunchtime drink in our shabby chic Louis Quanz bar, anything you fancy? its on tap. Open: 12pm til 11 -30pm Mon - Sat Sunday opening hours. The Street, Worth, Nr Deal CT14 0DD 01304 613 245 Entertainment live and in house events coming soon.... For updates please visit our website www.bluepigeonsatworth.co.uk

Journey over the sea to an ice age

CROSS-CHANNEL visitors are being encouraged to drive the short distance from Calais to see this year's Snow and Ice Sculpture Festival in Bruges.

This season it is themed on the new Disney film Ice Age 3 with the chance to get up close and personal with cute characters from the cast.

Renowned throughout Europe, the festival is made up of an international team of professional ice-sculptors, creating dozens of artworks from more than 700,000kg of pure ice and snow, kept at a temperature of -5°C.

Admission is 13 euros (about £11.70) for adults and nine euros (£8) for children.

The festival is open until January 10, 2010. For more on how to get there using SeaFrance Dover-Calais ferries — from £19 for a car with up to five passengers — you can go to www.seafrance.com or phone 0871 22 22 500.

Resourceful team reaps the benefits

SHEPWAY council's benefits team has been recognised as among the top five in a national scheme to reward outstanding customer improvement.

It was chosen as a finalist in the Most Improved Team Of The Year awards, run by the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation.

The team at Folkestone's Civic Centre handles housing and council-tax benefits enquiries, from new claims to people registering a change in their circumstances which can affect their entitlement.

New claimants' waiting time has been cut by 54 per cent and almost half of all claims are processed within 48 hours.





BY CHRIS MURPHY

A MASSIVE light show which will operate in tune with storms around the world is being staged in Deal.

It incorporates the entirety of the town's pier using an array of hi-tech equipment.

It's the brainwave of artist Katie Paterson, who has a fascination for all things space and beyond.

But for now she has limited her interest to the entirety of planet Earth.

The evocative artwork is called Streetlight Storm. She will be transforming the pier into an alternative light show reflecting global storm patterns as they happen live.

Flicker

Katie, who lives in London, was commissioned by Vauxhall Motors to create this incredible piece of artwork.

Along the length of the pier stretching out to sea, the lights will flicker in time with lightning storms as they occur live across the globe.

She is already heralded as one of the best exponents of creating poetic artworks exploring landscape, space and time, using technology to bring together the commonplace and the cosmic.

Now Streetlight Storm deftly harnesses everyday technology to connect with vast natural phenomena, collapsing the distance



LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT: Katie Paterson's lights on Deal pier will be set off by the world's lightning storms

between us and remote meteorological events. Katie's previous work includes mapping all of the dead stars that she could spot in the night skies

Now with Streetlight Storm, lightning signals from as far away as the North Pole and North Africa will be received by a single large antenna at the end of the pier and translated into an intricate light show so everyone in the area will known when a storm is raging. As the pattern of lightning strikes changes, so the pier lights oscillate correspondingly, displaying a subtlety that contrasts with the power and drama of the storms that they reflect.

Katie said she was already interested in weather systems, drawing her to investigate lightning storms, which, like other potentially dangerous natural phenomena, inspire fascination and fear in equal measure.

Streetlight Storm is also supported by the

Streetlight Storm is also supported by the Albion Gallery, in partnership with Turner Contemporary and Whitstable Biennale.

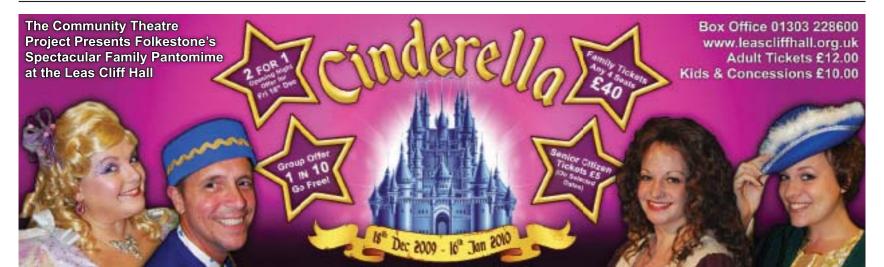
And of course JMW Turner was an artist associated closely with landscape, producing numerous works inspired by the quality of light, changing skies and often turbulent seas of the east Kent coast.

Katie, 28, said: "The light show won't scare the locals – it will be quite subtle – but I guess there will be some who may wonder what's going on when their pier starts flashing.

"The idea is that the antenna will pick up the lightning as it happens and that signal will be relayed to the lights on the pier.

"The more intense the lightning is, the more extravagant the lighting response will be.

"Hopefully it will vary from a glimmer to some real crackling. This is all new to me, so I have plenty of help from people more experienced with the technology than I am, but it promises to be an amazing show of light variations."







SEASON OF GOODWILL: Calais mayor Bouchart Natacha (left) and (right) old machines at the lace museum

Calais leader's festive invite to Mayor of Dover

THE Mayor of Calais, Natacha Bouchart, has offered a seasonal invitation to her counterpart across the Channel.

She wants Dover's Sue Jones to pop across to France for a spell of Christmas shopping.

Speaking as the French town outlined its yuletide celebrations, Mme Bouchart said: "I know the Mayor of Dover has a busy schedule, but it would be great to see her over here.

"I would make sure she got taken anywhere she wanted to go - I'd drive her anywhere she likes. She could visit the shops and see what Christmas gifts we have here and have a look at the market we hold for the festive season as well as all the other attractions.

"She could also have a meal in one of our excellent restaurants.

"Actually I have met her several times, but she has never had the opportunity to have a good look around Calais and see what we are doing here in regenerating many parts of the town.

"A visit here is outside the pressures of daily life and we like to welcome all of our English

BY NICK AMES

celebrations, which are costing some £240,000, is - seasonally - snow.

The forecourt outside the town hall will be decorated and turned into a forest, while there is also a snow village and crèche featuring the Three Wise Men.

A total of 50,000 leaflets have been produced in English showing what the area has to offer visitors

Calais's Christmas market is held from December 12-20 and extends from Theatre Square to the main shopping streets of the city centre. Some 100 stalls display arts and crafts and local specialities such as Rond de Saint Nicolas - locally-made crunchy biscuits.

Another attraction open for seasonal visitors is the lace museum, which has a collection of more than 400,000 pieces of machinemade and handmade lace.

Visitors can see the early machines that created this industry and find out how they were smuggled from England.

There are examples of designer lace dresses and lingerie from the 17th century to the present day – together with information about the social context of lace-making.

This year the theme of the French town's

Ferry staff smooth operators

P&O Ferries took top honours as Ferry Company Of The Year at this year's British Travel Awards.

The company, which operates from the Port of Dover, swept the board to collect the award for the third year running in the travel industry 'Oscars' voted for by the public and the travel trade.

It picked up the titles of Best Short Sea Ferry Operator, Best Cross-Channel Operator and Cross-Channel Operator Of The Year for its services.

The clean sweep of titles meant that P&O Ferries was awarded the overall title of Ferry Company Of The Year.

Simon Johnson, tourist sales and marketing director, said: "We are delighted to have been voted the UK's top ferry company, especially as these are the only travel-industry awards to combine both trade and consumer votes.



WINNERS: P&O Ferries staff with their awards

"It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all of our staff.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Road resurfacing begins

TO improve the lives of residents and roadusers in the Dover district, Kent Highway Services is carrying out resurfacing and road repairs over the next few weeks.

Highway crews staged a two-night operation in Priory Road, Dover, last week to resurface the section between Faversham Road and the Ladywell traffic signals.

A second operation to resurface Sandwich Road, Whitfield, took place between the A2 Whitfield roundabout and Beauxfield and was due to finish yesterday (Tuesday).

The work saw the old surface planed off, a new one laid, and both the missing speed hump and current damaged one replaced.

The county council's Nick Chard said: "These roadworks are important for residents and road-users. They are a key element of the work we do to make Kent a better place to live and work.

The planned resurfacing forms a major part of the work of Kent Highway Services.

This year KCC's highway division was also given an extra £15 million for immediate repairs, such as fixing potholes.

Security tags for schools

PCSO Jacqui Brook, the neighbourhood officer for the Castle, Town and Pier wards in Dover, has been working closely with children in recent weeks.

She visited St Mary's Primary School in Laureston Place to carry out securitymarking of children's property.

She also explained how security-marking works and acts as a deterrent to thieves and how it can make it easier for property to be reunited with its owner if it is lost or stolen.

Pupils from Aycliffe Primary School in Dover have also been getting first-hand advice on staying safe.

Rain storms wreak havoc

GALE-force winds accompanied at times by hail and thunder have lashed Deal and Walmer in recent weeks.

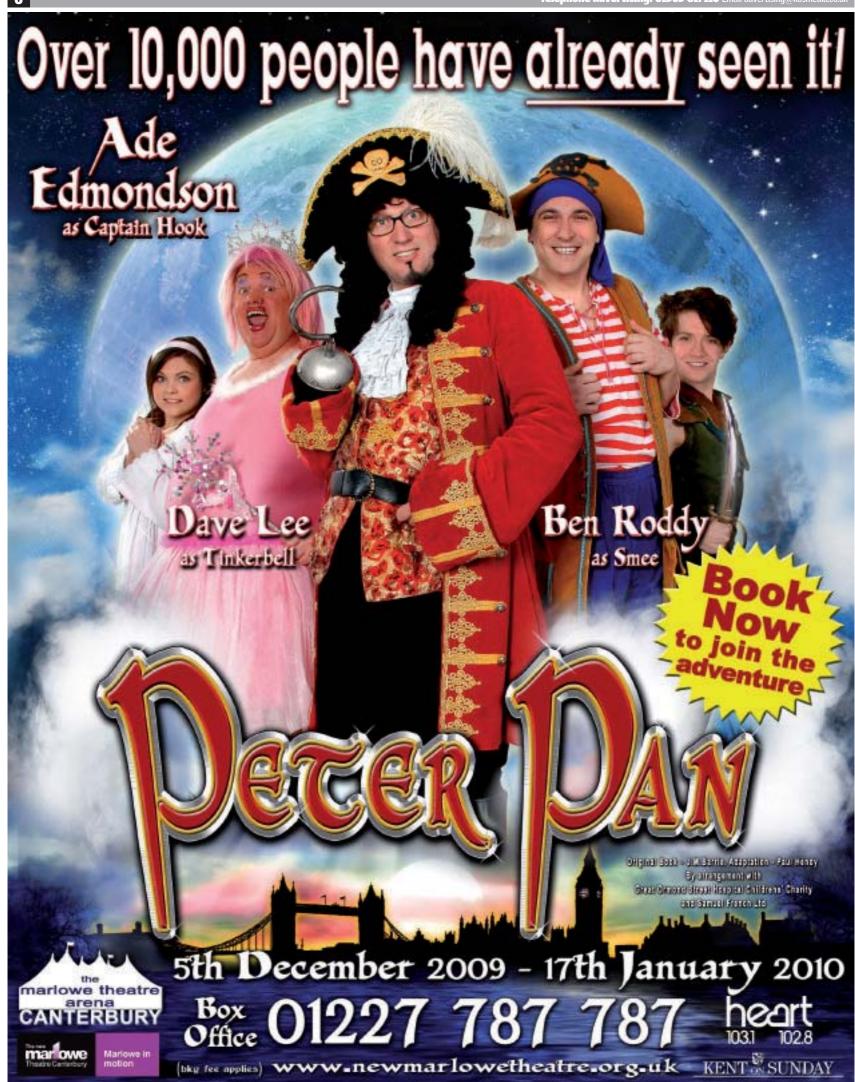
At the height of the storms, Deal pier was closed to the public as a safety measure.

Along Granville Road at Walmer, one of the Walmer Meadow trees was felled by the wind. The coastguard station at Langdon Cliffs recorded one gust at 90mph.

The Port of Dover also recorded delays because of berthing problems for ferries.

Weather forecasters said last month across the whole of the UK was the wettest November on record.





Father's grief becomes a cry from the heart

BY MARIJKE COX

A GRIEVING father has written a book about coping with the death of his teenage son and the tragic suicide of his ex-wife who could not face life without her boy.

In his book, Losing James – A Father Cries Too, Michael Bollom gives a candid account of how he dealt with the double tragedy that tore his world apart.

tore his world apart.

The 50-year-old, from Bearsted, near Maidstone, recalled the moment on December 4, 2005, that he found out his 16-year-old son James was dead.

"I felt a complete numbness," he said. "My life fell apart. I didn't really know what was going on for those first few months."

James was killed in a car crash in Wateringbury, near Maidstone, a month short of his 17th birthday. He had been a passenger in a speeding car that went out of control and hit an oncoming vehicle.

Mr Bollom, a director of a manufacturing company in Sittingbourne, said: "James died instantly. His side of the car took the full impact of the crash. Losing someone through the fault of somebody else feels even worse. "The driver was done for dangerous driving

"The driver was done for dangerous driving and was sentenced to two years and three months in prison, but some of that was spent on probation. The penalty didn't seem to take into account that a life was lost."

But things got worse for Mr Bollom when, just three months after the fatal crash that killed his son, his ex-wife Samantha took her own life.

"She couldn't cope with life without James," he said. "They had a very good relationship; they were best friends. She just couldn't go on without him."

James shared his time between his parents, but spent the majority with his mother.

Mr Bollom said: "Samantha and I had a good relationship. When she died it was like reliving the whole experience of James's death again."

Asked whether he had considered suicide himself, Mr Bollom said: "When you lose a child, of course you think, 'What's the point?" But I was fortunate to have a strong network around me, including my wife of ten years. But Samantha felt she couldn't carry on."

In his book, Mr Bollom talks about how he sought solace in the spiritual realm through a medium. He admitted that prior to the



A WONDERFUL DAY TO REMEMBER: Teenager James was the best man at his father Michael Bollom's wedding



LONE BURDEN: Mr Bollom on James's memorial bench

tragedy he was sceptical about spiritual life, but now believes he would not have got through his grief without it.
"It was able to show me that no matter

that was able to show me that no matter what, James is always there," he said.

"There were things the medium knew that were so accurate, things only James and I would know. I talk about this in the book, but only as my opinion. I don't want to preach to people about how to deal with their grief."

A main factor in Mr Bollom's book is that it deals with the grief of a father.

"It is rare for a book like this to be written by a man," he said. "Most are written from a female perspec-

"Most are written from a female perspective, but I think it's very important to see that fathers suffer too.

"They have to carry on and be strong for others and in a way they have a harder job because they are trying to deal with their grief while carrying on as normal. It's hard to see a mother grieving for a lost child, but at times fathers are somewhat forgotten when their grief is just as bad.

"No parent should have to bury a child."

Money raised from sales of the book —
which took 15 months to write — is going to a
charity to help people dealing with bereavement. Mr Bollom said he was looking into
which charity to choose.

He added: "I miss James, we were close. He was best man at my wedding. He was always smiling and liked by everyone. There were 450 people at his funeral, all of different ages.

"Writing this book has helped me cope with his death. I hope it will help others who have lost someone close."

 Losing James – A Father Cries Too is available at £799 by contacting Michael Oke at Bound Biographies on 01869 232911. Alternatively, email mike@boundbiographies.com.



Stargazers aim to reclaim the night

DARKNESS at night is one of the things that defines the countryside, but that is rapidly declining and with it our views of the stars and planets.

For eight years Anton Vamplew worked at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich. He now runs Planetarium Earth, a company dedicated to space and astronomy, from his home in Langton Green, near Tunbridge Wells.

He said: "Responsible councils are getting better with their policies for preventing light pollution, but we have a long way to go.

"Security lighting is a concern. I understand the need, but with a little effort the searchlights on private property, public buildings and business premises can be scaled down and reflected not to embrace the sky. It is a matter of education.

"Campaigning has made a difference in some areas, but towns and cities will never get the views of the skies at night back."

Deterioration

Trevor Cannon, of the Mid Kent Astronomical Society, is among those campaigning for the return of dark skies. He said: "Over 30 years' study I have seen a

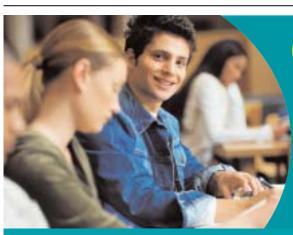
He said: "Over 30 years' study I have seen a big difference in the clarity of the sky at night. There has been a dramatic deterioration. We have to curb both light and air pollution. There is law, but no one seems to be imposing it."

Already the heart of the Milky Way is blotted out for more than half the UK population and the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) has data from satellites showing the light pollution is spreading.

Michael Smith, professor of astronomy at the University of Kent, said: "More than 300 megawatts of power is wasted skywards from UK street lights and the annual cost is £100 million."

It seems that many are still unaware that intrusive lighting is, since 2006, by law a statutory nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act. Exterior light emitted from premises that is prejudicial to health or a nuisance is a criminal offence. The CPRE campaign would like to see it used to raise awareness with discussion and mediation in the first place rather than court action.

The charity also points out that the law clearly cites lights from premises, so street lighting is ruled out, but it is urging people to report other bad examples to environmental health officers.



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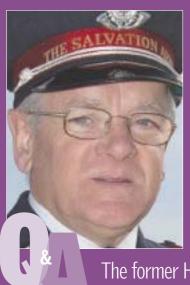
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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

RICHARD CARROLL



Tell us a little about yourself

A I'm 68 and spent most of my working life with Royal Mail. I still work part-time as a cover supervisor at the Folkestone School For Girls and as senior invigilator at Pent Valley Technology College. Family life is of vital importance to my wife Anne and I and we spend lots of time with our seven grandchildren.

What is your role in the Salvation Army in Hythe?

I have been Bandmaster (volunteer) for 33 years. I am also a member of two committees: the Pastoral Council, which deals with mainly spiritual matters, and the Church Council, dealing with administration, special events and organisation matters. I teach children to play brass instruments as part of my commitment to The Salvation Army

Tell us more about the Shepway Community Gospel Choir and the Salvation Army Football Club

A The gospel choir is open to everybody, irrespective of race, colour or creed, and there are no auditions.

This is not a Salvation Army choir, but the organisation allows rehearsals to take place in the church as part of our commitment to the community. The musical director is my son Wesley – he has tremendous experience.

The football club came about as a response to an observed need within the community.

The club now has two sections, one for 11- to 15-year olds and 16+, boys and girls. The 16+ group plays in the Kent Church League.

Captain Phil Layton runs the club within a Christian framework. There's no preaching, but bad language is discouraged and the youngsters are encouraged to play fairly.

This is open to anyone – just turn up outside the Salvation Army Church, Portland Road, Hythe, at 11.30am on a Sunday.

Where can people find out about the Salvation Army and become involved?

We have our own website, www. hythesalvationarmy.org.uk, or alternatively people can phone Captain Phil Layton on 01303 268792.

Have you any favourite memories of your time with the organisation?

As a member of the International Staff Band, I have toured the world, but in October 2006 I had the privilege of taking the Hythe Salvation Army band and choir to Estonia.

I was asked if I was prepared to take the band into an area known as The Lines, an area of Tallinn where 6,000 stateless people live in appalling conditions, where neither the police nor the emergency services will venture.

I agreed and it was an unbelievable experience. We just stood and played and within minutes crowds came and little old ladies started to dance and just kept saying "Thank

you for coming, thank you". This one event meant more to me than playing in concert halls around the world.

You resigned as a town councillor over the Hythe Imperial Hotel plans – what were your objections?

A few years ago the LibDems gained control – everyone was 'new'. The local Conservatives were hopping mad when the LibDem councillors who were elected for both Hythe and Shepway were not supporting Hythe Town Council decisions at Shepway – and quite rightly.

At the Shepway planning meeting the Deputy Mayor of Hythe spoke against a democratically-voted resolution by Hythe Town Council.

In my book that is hypocritical and I do not want to be part of that.

What do you think the future holds for Hythe?

If you want 1,500 homes and a large commercial development at Nickoll's Quarry, if you want to see houses stretching from the Imperial Hotel to Seabrook Point, then the future is bright. If, however, you like Hythe the way it is...

Tell us something people don't tend to know about you

It is alleged that I like orange juice on my cornflakes.

The former Hythe town councillor and Salvation Army bandmaster spoke to **James Alexandre** about his time touring the world, his resignation from local politics and what he allegedly eats for breakfast

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Sat

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11°C

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Ashford

Canterbury

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Faversham

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Gillingham

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Maidstone

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Tonbridge

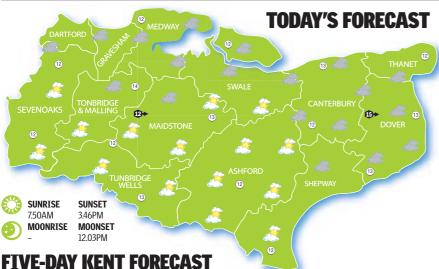
Tun Wells

Sittingbourne 10°C

WEATHER UPDATES 24 HOURS A DAY @ www.kentnews.co.uk



WEEKEND **HIGH TIDES**



Fri

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Chatham	Saturday	8:49am	5.4m
	Sunday	9:54am	5.4m
Dover	Saturday	7:19am	6.0m
	Sunday	8:19am	6.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	7:13am	6.7m
	Sunday	8:12am	6.9m
Ramsgate	Saturday	7:49am	4.5m
	Sunday	8:49am	4.6m
Sheerness	Saturday	8:37am	5.2m
	Sunday	9:42am	5.2m
Whitstable	Saturday	8:44am	4.8m

AROUND THE **WORLD YESTERDAY**

9:51am

Amsterdam	/°C	Madrid	10°C
Athens	15°C	New York	3°C
Barcelona	17°C	Paris	8°C
Beijing	1°C	Rome	13°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	32°C
Cape Town	21°C	Tenerife	22°C
Cardiff	9°C	Tokyo	13°C
Gibraltar	17°C	Vancouver	4°C
Hong Kong	18°C	Warsaw	6°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	17°C

Christmas clampdown on criminals gets under way

POLICE have launched an operation to reduce crime in the run-up to the festive season.

It runs until Tuesday, January 5, involving police officers, PCSOs and student police officers who will be out on patrol in high numbers. They will be focusing on town centres, including Dover, Deal and Sandwich, and

shopping centres to provide reassurance, act as a deterrent and deal swiftly with any

reports of theft from shops or people.

Some police officers will be in plain clothes to allow for closer observation of potential crime.

CCTV operators will be playing their part in the operation by closely monitoring shopping areas, car parks and bike racks and advising police of any offenders in the area.

Retailers will also be kept informed through the network of shop watch radios, which they can also use to broadcast information to other retailers and the police.

Consumption

Information will be gathered about any persistent offenders and powers will be used to ban them from town centres where possible.

Police teams will be working closely with the licensing officer and local pubs, clubs and offlicences to ensure the responsible sale and consumption of alcohol.

British Transport Police are also taking part, with extra patrols at main railway stations.

While patrolling, police officers and PCSOs will ask people what priorities they would like dealt with in their neighbourhood and the information will be fed back to the relevant police team or community safety unit, which is made up of the police, council and other local authorities.

Detective Inspector Daren O'Malley said: "Crime continues to fall in south Kent and this operation is designed to keep crime down and to keep our towns centres safe between now and over Christmas.

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yourschools

BREAK TIME

Youngsters display all the right moves

DANCERS at St Edmund's School in Dover showed what they can do during performances for their qualifications.

Students at the showcase included Courteney Pearson, who did a solo dance for the BTEC First, followed by a duo from Chantelle Hardy and Katie Mayo.

After a group dance, St Edmund's boys, who have been working with Chris Francis and Dan Evans from Brockhill School, gave an athletic performance.

Carrie Marsden rounded off the evening with her jazz dance for the BTEC National Certificate Award.

The next dance showcase is on Friday, January 15.

Staff don gladrags for Thunderball

MORE than 100 parents and staff of Sandgate Primary School donned their best attire for the annual autumn ball.

This year's event, organised by the Parent Teacher Association, was at the East Cliff Pavilion and had a James Bond

theme.



Cliff Pavilion and had a James Bond the James Bond-themed ball

PTA chairwoman Heather Bradley said: "The atmosphere was fun and it was so nice to see everyone dressed up.

"As a PTA we are very proud of our fund-raising achievements and this was a social event for everyone to enjoy."

Charity competition puts festive posters in-store

BY **JAMES ALEXANDRE**

A CHILDREN'S art display is being held on behalf of Folkestone-based family support charity B-4-8s with a competition for youngsters to design a Christmasthemed poster.

The contest is free to enter and there are three age groups, ranging from under-fours, five- to seven-year-olds and ages eight to 11.

Entrants may use A4-size paper or card and any other materials they like and hand their poster in to either B-4-8s or Sainsbury's in Bouverie Road West, Folkestone.

The competition runs until Monday, December 20. The winning entry will be mounted and displayed on a wall near the customer-service desk in the store as part of an exhibition of children's work.

A prize for the winner of each group will be presented by store manager David Perks on the same day.

Mr Perks said: "I'm new to the area, being with the store for only a few weeks, and feel very strongly about our involvement in the local community.

"This is a great opportunity for me to meet some of our younger customers and encourage their creative talents while supporting our charity of the year.

"I look forward to seeing the store decorated with all the festive pictures."

The pictures will then be on sale for the minimum donation of $\pounds 1$ to go towards B-4-8s,



FAMILY SUPPORT: B-4-8s project manager Kevin Bennett, his daughter Emma Bennett and store manager David Perks

which is also known as the Shepway Family Information Project.

B-4-8s is the supermarket's charity of the year and was established 13 years ago to help children and their families by providing support, advice and information.

It has a free drop-in centre for parents and offers support groups on a variety of family-focused subjects where problems and concerns can be aired and shared, while children can

have loads of fun in the well-equipped play area.

The charity is also a registered UK online centre which gives internet access and has facilities for mums to feed and change their baby or toddler, as well as the chance to meet other parents.

More information about the competition is available from B-4-8s at 4 Town Walk, Folkestone, at www.b48s.org.uk and from Sainsbury's in Bouverie Road West.

SEND your schools news and pictures to dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk



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Afghanistan: a soldier's tale

How a Kent TV journalist brought an Army captain's memoirs to life

BY NICK AMES

TWO of the most highly regarded books to come out of the conflict in Afghanistan recount the experiences of Captain Doug Beattie of the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles.

The Military Cross holder first put together an account of a ferocious battle against the Taliban to retake the town of Garmsir called An Ordinary Soldier.

The News of the World called it "exhilarating, bloody, moving and terrifying" while The Sunday Times said it was "a riveting read".

The follow up "Task Force Helmand" describes Capt Beattie's return to the warzone in the role of mentoring and training members of the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Army.

But for a chance encounter in 2006 underneath a camouflage net while waiting for a Hercules transport aircraft out of the British base Camp Bastion and the prompting of Capt Beattie's wife Margaret, neither book would

have seen the light of day.

The man with the task of turning the Northern Irish officer's notes and memories into bestseller material was Philip Gomm who met him while waiting to return to the UK after working as a cameraman in the combat zone.

Mr Gomm, a former reporter with Meridian TV, who lives just outside Ashford, said: "I'd been filming for the ITV regions which include

Meridian and I was on my way home.
"I was waiting for a flight while sitting next to a chap with a battered and bruised face. It looked as though he had been involved in something very serious.

"We got talking and it turned out he'd fought a battle to retake Garmsir which should have lasted two days but he was actually there for two weeks. Like all Irishmen, he told a good story.





ORDINARY SOLDIERS? An image from Captain Doug Beattie's new book, showing soldiers capturing a Taliban suspect and, right, journalist Philip Gomm reporting from Westminster

"And it wasn't just about Afghanistan. Doug had guarded ex Nazi leader Rudolph Hess in Spandau Prison and been a Regimental Sergeant Major under Iraq hero Tim Collins.

"I said to him that during my 40 years of life I'd wanted to write a book but it had never happened as I'd never found the right subject.

Then I said that today looking at you I've found someone who I know people will find interesting - because I certainly do."

The pair exchanged contact details and Mr Gomm thought that well could be the end of any contact.

But six months later he got an email from Capt Beattie.

"It turned out that when he got home, back to Northern Ireland, Doug found he could not talk about his experiences to his wife – but he started to write them down so she could read them," said Mr Gomm.

"It was she who suggested he contacted the person who had said he was interested in writing a book so I got a whole load of documents

"Doug is so candid, honest and emotional he is a dream for a writer. You don't have to prise things out. He didn't mind admitting he had cried and had nightmares about what he had seen and done.

"In a broader way it was beneficial and cathartic for him to get things out. Other soldiers returning from combat don't have that outlet and can bottle up things. Five or ten years later that can cause real problems.'

Three agents expressed interest in the book as did five publishers and it ended up selling – to date – around 60,000 copies. Capt Beattie was all set to leave the Army

but then received a phone call.

"This was in 2008 and his commanding officer asked him to train some of the younger recruits and work with Afghan police and soldiers," said Mr Gomm.

His experiences have just been published in a second book, in collaboration with Mr Gomm.

It recounts 50 major engagements with the Taliban and horrific incidents such as the death of a child by a British mortar shell and how Afghan soldiers - working alongside UK forces - murdered a Taliban prisoner.

It also recounts Afghan soldiers displaying the body parts of a suicide bomber as a warning to other insurgents.

Mr Gomm said: "I feel that Doug got harder

on his second tour. The first time he took a life - in 2006 - it affected him deeply but he got hardened to it."

Capt Beattie is now retired from the Army but is still active in the Territorials and the British Legion in his home town of Portadown.

He said: "I wrote what I wrote honestly from a soldiers' point of view and Phil - who has never served in the military - did a brilliant job of turning it into a language people could understand.

An Ordinary Soldier and Task Force Helmand are available through Simon and Schuster publishers, priced £17.99.

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exercise activity timetable

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monday

STUDIO 1

BLT Blitz	09.30 - 10.30
Hi/Lo	10.30 - 11.30
Swiss Ball	
Body Combat	11.30 - 12.30
Young at Hear	14.30 - 15.30
Body Combat	18.00 - 19.00
Body Pump	19.10 - 20.10

08.30 - 09.15 Boxercise

SPIN STUDIO

20.15 - 21.30 Yoga

Early Spin	06.45 - 07.30
'Vibe' Spir	09.30 - 10.15
Spin	20.15 - 21.00

MIND & BODY

Yoga	12.15 - 13.45
Abs Stretc	17.45 - 18.30
& Tone	
Pilates	18.30 - 19.45

AQUA

10.30 - 11.15	Aqua
19.30 - 20.15	Aqua

SPECIAL INTERESTS

10.30 - 11.30 Plan B

tuesday

STUDIO 1

y Pump	06.45 - 07.30
ercise	09.15 - 10.15
y Pump	10.30 - 11.30
1	12.15 - 13.00
1	18.00 - 19.00
ess Yoga	19.00 - 20.15

SPIN STUDIO

11.45 - 12.30	Advanced Spin
18.00 - 18.30	Begin to Spin
10 00 - 10 45	Snin

MIND & BODY

Yoga	09.45 - 11.15
Yoga	13.30 - 14.45
Glide & Sculp	20.00 - 20.45

AQUA

11.15 - 12.00 Agua Attack

wednesday

STUDIO 1

BLI Blitz	09.30 - 10.30
Total Body	10.45 - 11.45
Blast	
Young at Hear	14.30 - 15.30
Body Combat	19.00 - 20.00
Body Pump	20.00 - 21.00

SPIN STUDIO

Early Spir	06.45 - 07.30
Spin	09.45 - 10.30
Spin	17.45 - 18.30

MIND & BODY

Pilates	12.30 - 13.30
Chi Ball	13.30 - 14.30
Power Yoga	16.00 - 17.30
Stretch & To	18.00 - 19.00
Pilates	19.00 - 20.30

AQUA

12.15 - 13.00 **Aqua**

thursday

STUDIO 1

Body Pump	09.30 - 10.30
Boxercise	18.00 - 19.00
Total Body	19.00 - 20.00
Blast	
Swice Rall Rlif	20.00 - 21.00

SPIN STUDIO

Spin	08.00 - 08.45
Spin	11.30 - 12.15
Advanced Spi	19.30 - 20.15

MIND & BODY

Yoga	09.45 - 11.15
Pilate	11.30 - 12.30

AQUA

Aqu	11.30 - 12.15
Aqu	20.15 - 21.00

GYN

20.15 - 21.15 Plan B

friday

STUDIO 1

Step	09.30 - 10.30
Body Combat	10.30 - 11.30
Young at Heart	14.30 - 15.30
Body Pump	18.00 - 19.00

SPIN STUDIO

Early Spin	06.45 - 07.30
Advanced Spi	09.15 - 10.00
Spin	19.00 - 19.45

MIND & BODY

10.15 - 11.45 **Yoga**

AQUA

11.15 - 12.00 Aqua Attack

saturday

STUDIO 1

Body Clinic	08.00 - 08.15
Body Comba	08.15 - 09.15
Body Pump	09.30 - 10.30

SPIN STUDIO

13.00 - 13.45 **Spin**

MIND & BODY

08.15 - 09.00	Abs, Stretch & Tone
09.30 - 10.30	Pilates
11 30 - 12 30	Pilatos

sunday

STUDIO 1

09.30 - 10.00	Ab Attack
10.00 - 11.00	Body Combat

SPIN STUDIO

	Yoga	08.30 - 10.00	
	Spin	10.15 - 11.00	
& Abs	Spin	17.00 - 18.00	

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В

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13



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yourblogger

As the county trials a new NHS cash-card scheme, do we really want to determine our own health care?



Choice is for the supermarket, not for decisions on medicine

WHEN I go to the shop to buy breakfast cereal, I want a choice.

Currently I'm going for the healthy option and buying Shredded Wheat, but next week...

I might decide to start my day with sugarcoated toasted confectionery, or purchase a box of those brightly-coloured things with marshmallow bits that make it difficult to concentrate if you eat too many of them.

Actually, they may have been banned now... the point is, I have a choice, and that's just great. Choice is a popular thing – it allows us $\,$ to assert our individuality through the medium of humorous ringtones, for example,

In fact, having a choice, a say in who runs our country, is what our great democracy is built on. But is it always good to have a choice?

Kent has been picked, along with some other counties, to pilot an NHS scheme which could take choice too far.

The plan is to issue patients a cash-card, loaded with X thousand pounds that they

The pilot is being run with pregnant women who will be asked to pick what they want to spend their birth budget on, instead of those meddling, fully-qualified, experienced professionals doing it for them. Fantastic!

But do pregnant women really need to feel in control of their own health budget? I would assume they already have quite a lot to think about, let alone taking on a temporary unpaid job as an NHS finance manager.

Not being pregnant, or indeed a woman, I don't know. But what I do know is that if I am ill, particularly if it is something serious, I just want to go somewhere and be cured.

I don't want to choose my own treatment. I want a doctor to do that because he is rather more likely to know what he's doing.

Yet if the pilot is deemed a success, then the cash-cards could be rolled out for other groups - cancer patients, the elderly, the terminally ill. Professional medical staff have already lined up against the plan, with both the Royal College of Midwives and the King's Trust led to mis-spent money which does nothing to improve patients' health.

Some groups – the young, the old, the mentally ill – may not be in the best position to correctly judge what treatment they need.

And aside from the practical issues, there are serious moral questions here, too.

Who is ultimately responsible if the patient makes the wrong choice? The type one diabetes sufferer who decides to trust in homeopathic charlatans instead of taking insulin injections? Is it their fault their condition deteriorates?

Sometimes choice is not what we need.
Breakfast cereal? Yes. Elected representatives? Yes. Ringtones? If you really must.
But when we are ill we just need to be confident we are getting the best care possible,

wherever we go, without the added stress of balancing a budget.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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Write to Editor Dave Mairs, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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TALK TIME

NETL HUNNISETT

The producer of Cinderella at the Leas Cliff Hall talks about his years treading the boards and what he most enjoys about panto



Tell us how you become involved in pantomime

My first panto was in 1976/7 at the old Leas Pavilion, followed by many more at The Leas Cliff Hall from the early 1980s. We are hoping this year will be our biggest and best production ever.

What is your background in theatre?

My introduction to theatre was at school and soon after I was invited to join Folkestone and Hythe Operatic and Dramatic Society (FHODS). To be honest, at that time the biggest attraction was ten girls to every boy.

How many pantos have you been involved in and which is your favourite role?

I've been in many pantos and always enjoy playing the Buttons or Silly Billy-type part, but the greatest challenge was playing the lead in Me And My Girl some years ago.

What advice would you give budding actors?

You know you're alive five seconds before you go on to the stage, it's a great thrill. Come along and find out for yourself by going to www.communitytheatreproject.org.uk.

What else are you involved in?

I run the Folkestone Invicta under-ten boys' football team.

 Cinderella runs at the Leas Cliff Hall from December 18-January 16. Tickets cost £12 for adults and £10 for children, with family and group discounts available. Phone the box office on 01303 228600, or go to www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

YOUR LETTERS

Climate change is the new terrorism

It is evident from last week's correspondence that Ray Duff believes he has a huge following eagerly awaiting his regular letters in papers which are only too willing to print his unorthodox views.

No doubt Mr Duff has a long scientific background with a string of letters after his name but is too modest to mention that as he propounds devastating facts on climate change, in my view facts he has gleaned from reading biased reports in The Guardian and New Scientist, literature which is freely available in Folkestone Library.

Climate change is the new terrorism, to control people.

It is costing every taxpayer over £800 per year. It wouldn't surprise me if it became a crime to deny climate change, in the same way you can be locked up in other countries for Holocaust denial.

I wonder if Mr Duff's recent in-depth and scientific contribution regarding climate change was formed before the

now-discredited Al Gore report? Senator Edward Kennedy ran away from the accident scene where Mary Jo Kopechne died in a river. The US government covered up the scandal.

Bill Clinton lied to Congress over the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal yet was re-elected.

The Americans in 2003 glorified the rescue of Private Lynch by US special forces and later admitted that her capture



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and rescue was a pack of lies. The traitor Ted Heath told us we were entering a "free trade agreement" – now we are a member of a federal Europe.

The Government has opened the floodgates for immigration. And now we are seeing we went to war in Iraq on lies. With these examples of deceit, who can we believe?

What other events have they lied to us about in the past?

On too many occasions we read

the opinions of people who would attend the opening of a jam jar if it meant they could get their name in a newspaper.

I have an acute suspicion of those who associate themselves to every minority cause and green issue. They can be the biggest hypocrites when it comes to climate change

Harry Williams, Hythe



Sorry, but Wright is writing wrongs

Gary Wright is wrong (last week's blog). Our first duty as human beings is to help others in need if we can.

Fortunately, we have Kent Refugee Help to act on our behalf concerning asylum-seekers based near Calais who are camping

outside in winter. But as UK Green Party MEPs Jean Lambert and Caroline Lucas have both noted, charity is not enough.

We need more elaborate solutions to the illegal movement of people across borders.

We need, in short, to ensure that all movements by people across borders are legal, fair and safe. We need to make sure that people are not trafficked into exploitation of any kind. And we

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need European countries to act together to achieve this. But no one should underestimate how difficult this will be to achieve, or how long it will take.

Unfortunately, as this is written, there is no guarantee that the Metropolitan Police unit dealing with trafficking will have its funding renewed.

And the European Union policies which, in principle, would lead towards common asylum and immigration policies are under-developed and underfunded.

If asylum-seekers are to cease to be the favourite scapegoats of those who refuse to see them as human beings deserving humanitarian treatment, then our political leaders need to direct their attention and more resources to the aim of making all movements of people across borders legal, fair and safe.

As I shall be telling postgraduate students studying migration in the new year, the heartbreaking lives of many asylum-seekers and stateless people justify our care, not our condemnation.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party

UK cannot afford this level of immigration

While feeling sympathy for refugees in Calais, I do not see why we as a nation should be an open door for anyone who wants to live here.

How long will we have to pay people on benefits before they can find work? Some never find work.

What is this doing to our housing problems? The NHS has more money poured in every year to cope with the people who come here.

Unaccompanied children should not be allowed in, they would be better off in their own country, with their families to care for them.

Anything could happen to them – taken by unscrupulous people to be used as slave labour, or worse.

We are doing these children no favours by allowing them in alone or with an adult who has not been checked.

Why do we not help with accommodation, infrastructure, schools *etc* in countries over the first safe border?

That would help everyone. We are giving too much, food, housing and health care to those who may never work a day.

They should be refused entry unless they can show they will be able to work and care for themselves.

Pat Moore, comment on www.kentnews.co.uk

If there's an open door, why do people sneak in?

If we were an 'open door', wouldn't these people simply be able to get the train or ferry like everyone else? Think about it.

We don't have an open door. People get here in secret, despite the millions that are spent policing the crossing.

Bob, comment on www.kentnews.co.uk

Asylum-seekers see us as beacon of hope in world

Without going into the complexities of EU immigration and refugee policy that have pushed the borders of Europe further and further out (even beyond the borders of the EU), I'd just like to point out how hard it can be to claim asylum in many countries of Europe, even if people want to.

The question of why refugees seem to

want to come is a complex one but is certainly connected to our reputation in the world – as a major economic and political power, as well as being a country where it is possible for some migrants to work hard and achieve a better life.

In my view we not only have a responsibility to many of the migrants at our borders but should take pride that the UK is still seen as a place where people from across the world can find a welcome and can contribute to our society.

Refugees and other migrants are often presented as being a burden. The reality is quite different: their energy and drive contribute vastly to our economy and as most migrants are young and healthy they do not need or use the health service to any great extent.

No asylum-seeker is allowed to work, however, and the Government supports them at a rate well below Income Support – this means refugees in the process of applying to stay are forced to wait around until their case is concluded – something that may take years.

To conclude, it is a pleasure to have this chance to tell people a bit more about ourselves and to have some sensible discussion about migration to Europe.

Kent Refugee Help, like other local organisations such as Dover Detainee Support Group and Kent Refugee Action Network, is keen that people understand the reality of what it is to be a refugee and we try our best to support the most vulnerable in our society – those who are marginalised, criminalised and without rights and entitlements.

Lucy Williams Kent Refugee Help

We must act now and stop this retail overkill

Some of us have found time to go through the pile of information submitted by Sainsbury's to support its proposal for a superstore in Hythe. As expected, the future is not as rosy as it would have you think.

Shepway already has more superstores than it needs for the next 17 years. Don't take my word for it, this is Shepway council and Kent County Council's opinion.

The proposed Hythe store will add 18 per cent more capacity. The resulting price war may be good for our wallets, but the small traders of Hythe will get caught in the crossfire. Many will not survive.

Sainsbury's says it will get more customers from Folkestone and beyond than from Hythe itself. Its spokesmen are kidding us, and possibly themselves.

If they are going to get the business they target (1.3 times the amount presently spent on food in Hythe), it will have to come from north and west of Hythe. That means there will be far more traffic on London Road and Dymchurch Road than calculated.

Its traffic model is based on a survey done in February and ignores parked cars and coaches on both sides of Miltary Road and Dymchurch Road. It predicts the queue on London Road for the traffic lights (going straight on) will never be more than eight cars long, and you will never have to queue to turn left into Military Road.

Don't be surprised if 'unexpected' congestion leads to more double yellow lines all round the gyratory system. Despite trying, I have not been able to find any cases where a superstore has more than doubled the retail space in a town and the high street has not been decimated.

Neither has Sainsbury's. If readers love Hythe, they must not let this happen. Write to Shepway council this week.

Graham Horner, by email

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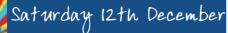


Upcoming tribute nights



Friday 11th December

Ricky Fontaine (Rock & Roll)



70's Glam Rock Night (4 Piece Band) Special event only £30 per person



Thursday 17th December

Streisand and Party Night (Special event only £30 per person)

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Friday 18th December
The Original Edison Lighthouse
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Saturday 19th December

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Ray's hooked on panto role

Home And Away actor to leave sunny Summer Bay to play the villainous pirate in classic pantomime tale

PETER PAN



Saturday, December 12, to Sunday, January 3 Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

AUDIENCES will be hooked on the Assembly Hall's pantomime when Peter Pan opens this weekend.

The villain of the piece has travelled from the other side of the world to take part in the show, which promises to be an extravaganza of festive family fun.

Ray Meagher is best known for playing amiable Alf Stewart in Australian soap opera Home and Away, but this Christmas he is donning the wig, coat and scary prop to play the wicked Captain Hook.

Having played Alf since the soap's very first episode in 1988, Meagher

Having played Alf since the soap's very first episode in 1988, Meagher has appeared in Guinness World Records as the longest-serving actor in a serial. His character has owned a liquor store, boat-hire service, caravan park and yacht brokerage, all while standing by his wife Ailsa as she suffered from depression.

Meagher began his career as a television actor before landing a number of film roles in films such as Breaker Morant, Newsfront and My Brilliant Career. His role as the villainous Captain Hook will be a far cry from all the drama of life in Summer Bay as he enters the magical world of Newsland.

al world of Neverland.

His hapless sidekick Smee will be played by Christopher Pizzey, who will be familiar to television viewers as Mr Stephen from The Basil Brush Show. He appeared as a main character in four series of the hugely popular children's programme and is currently starring in the new Planet Ajay on CBBC.

Jessica Punch plays Peter Pan, with Lucy Johnson as the charismatic fairy Tinkerbell. The role of Mrs Darling is played by Sarah Jane Buckley, who appeared as Cathy Barnes in the teen drama Hollyoaks.

The Nitwits will be adding some acrobatic flourish to the Pirate Crew, adding yet more excitement to a pan-



tomime that promises plenty of swashbuckling, laughter and magic.

Since Peter Pan's first appearance in the 1900s, JM Barrie's creation has enchanted readers of all ages and generated a number of films, plays and pantomimes. The magical tale of the boy who never grew up remains a perennial favourite and

audiences will find themselves caught up in the Assembly Hall's captivating Neverland.

Ticket prices start at £12.50, with concessions and group rates available.

To book, phone the box office on 01892 530613/532072, or go to www. assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.



with

JANE CONNOLLY Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk





DRACULA - THE PANTO

Sunday, November 13 Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs

PANTOMIME meets Gothic horror in a festive show at the Sarah Thorne Theatre

Club this weekend.

Dracula – the Panto is a fascinating production by the Isosceles Company which brings together folklore and slapstick. Get ready to boo, hiss and shout 'There's a

vampire behind you!'.

Jolly Jonathan travels to
Transylvania, where he
meets the mysterious Dracula, but the trouble really starts when Dracula decides to make his way to England.

With only a dame and a song-sheet standing in Dracula's way, will the good guys be able to thwart his plans for world domination?

A cast of just two actors bring the story to life for audi-

MERRY XMAS EVERYBODY

Sunday, November 13 Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

GET the festive party started in true glam-rock style with Merry Xmas Everybody.

The extravaganza Christmas fun is now in its 17th year and has audiences of all ages rocking in the aisles with performances of much-loved songs by great bands.

recently-reformed The Mud 2 opens the show with a selection of their popular singles, including the global hit Lonely This Christmas.

Relive the sound of a truly great rock band when acclaimed tribute band T-Rextasy blast on to stage. This celebration of Marc

Bolan's life and music includes renditions of hits such as Metal Guru, Ride A White Swan and Hot Love

ROBB JOHNSON

Saturday, December 12 Orange Street Music Club, Canterbury

FOLK fans can see one of the UK's finest songwriters per-form for Twilight Folk Club this weekend.

The highly-acclaimed Robb Johnson has worked with a variety of bands and musicians, while he is also a successful solo artist.

His songs have found their way into the repertoires of a diverse number of artists, from folk legend Roy Bailey to cabaret diva Barb Jungr, while his many champions in the Press have been just as varied.

Mojo and The Daily Telegraph have both praised his double CD Gentle Men, while Tony Benn reportedly cites Johnson's Winter Turns To Spring as his favourite

From pavements and pickets to the Royal Albert Hall,



ences aged eight and above. The performance starts at 2.30pm and tickets cost £10/£8 or £32 for a family ticket for non-members and £8/£7 or £28 for members.

To book, call the box office

on 0845 262 6263. Nonmembers must book at least 24 hours in advance, but tickets can be reserved by phone or alternatively by emailing info@sarahthornetheatreclub.co.uk.



The headline act are perhaps the ultimate Christmas band. Celebrating their 43rd anniversary, Slade will show that they have not lost the knack of getting people on their feet.

Merry many, Christmas Everybody is the definitive Christmas pop song, so Slade's performance is a festive treat not to be missed

The show starts at 7.30pm and standing tickets cost £24.50. Phone the box office on 0844 847 1776 or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



Johnson has delighted audiences of all sizes.

During the BBC Folk Britannia series in 2006, Johnson led a rendition of the First World War song Hanging On The Old Barbed

Other projects include

starting his own label, Irregular Records, and cowriting Woman, a biography of Yoko Ono.

The concert starts at 8pm and admission is £5. Phone 01227 760801, or alternatively visit www.myspace. com/twilightfolkclub.

The fun starts at 5.15pm on Saturday, with the carol concert and parade at the Bandstand in Walmer, before the parade leaves at 6.15pm. For details, visit the Dover Visitor Information Centre or go

Have the time of your

for another evening of fantastic music.

Marine Court Table Table welcomes Abba Dance tomorrow (Thursday), when

218260, or email Heather on dover. marinecourt@whitbread.com.

Let yourselves be led to classic evening of rock

LED Gremlin will perform some monstrously good music when they visit

The female-fronted band play classic psychedelic blues and rock. You can find out more at www.ledgremlin.com.

Catch them live at the Louis Armstrong in Miason Dieu Road on Saturday. For more details about the venue, phone the pub on 01304 204759.

Get creative and win £5,000 to stage event

ASPIRING nightlife promoters have just a few days left to apply for the Smirnoff Creative Grants scheme.

Last year, Duncan King from Maidstone organised the Tunnel Vision night at a fort in Chatham with a bursary from the scheme, which aims to encourage unforgettable nights out.

Four lucky entrants will win £5,000 each to stage their innovative event.

Enter at www.facebook.com/Smirnoff GB by Friday.

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Dave Lee is Tinkerbell in this year's Canterbury panto. Search 'Peter Pan'

LIVE & LOUD

Don't miss fun times as carnival comes to town

THE Christmas Carnival arrives in Deal at the weekend.

online at www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk.

life with Abba tribute

A TOP Abba tribute act is back in Dover

fans can expect a great live performance of some of Abba's greatest hits. Enjoy a good meal and then demonstrate why you are a dancing queen or king.

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IN STORE

More time to pick your presents at Bluewater

SHOPPERS have even more time to stock up on Christmas gifts with Bluewater's extended opening hours.

The shopping centre has announced a eries of Mega Days which will offer more flexibility for customers as they try to beat the last-minute rush. Mega Days will take place from December 21-23, when Bluewater will be open from 9am to 11pm. Winter Wonderland will be open between 10am-11pm on those days.

Visit www.bluewater.co.uk for details.

Topshop finds a place in royal town at last

DEDICATED followers of fashion will be in heaven with the new Topshop store in Tunbridge Wells.

The new store in Calverley Road opened last week and offers a great new shopping opportunity, with the mainline collections, footwear and accessories on sale over two floors. The gents do not miss out as there is a Topman store in the basement.

Until the opening, Topshop's only store in Tunbridge Wells was shared with Dorothy Perkins.

It'll be a laugh at book launch with Harry Hill

BAFTA-WINNING comedian Harry Hill will be signing copies of his new book at Bluewater on Thursday.

Hill has Kent connections and mentioned Medway on a recent edition of ITV's hugely popular Harry Hill's TV

He will be meeting fans and signing copies of Harry Hill's TV Burp Book at Waterstone's from 6pm. The book is published by Ebury Press and priced at £12.99. Call the store on 01322 624831.

Click on to the best Christmas list ever

BUYING the perfect Christmas present for a loved one will be easy this year, thanks to www.shopstyle.co.uk

In the same style as a wedding list, people can log on to the website and create their own online Christmas Wish List, choosing their ideal gifts from a selection of more than 2,000 top brands, designers and retailers. A link to the list can then be posted on Facebook or Twitter or emailed to friends and family.

Find out more at www.shopstyle.co.uk.

Put a smile on their faces for half price

TREAT your children to their ideal gift for less this Christmas with up to halfprice toys from Argos.

The Ultimate Bumblebee Supercharged

Transformers figure is half-price at £44.99, as is the Star Wars Tie Fighter at £24.99. Save £10 on the FurReal Zambi the Elephant, at £29.99, while young children will love the Winnie the Pooh Bounce and Spin Tigger, half-price at £18.99.

Visit your nearest store or go online at www.argos.co.uk to see all the offers.

Thanet's Live Music Scene

Thursday 10th December

Shan Lee Parker

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 11th December

Sabatage

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 12th December

Situation Vacant

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 12th December

Suspects

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Tuesday 15th December

Laurie Keyboards

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Thursday 17th December

Denny & Paul

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 18th December

Jeepster

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 19th December

Surf Dude Grandad

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 19th December

Vinyl Descent

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Tuesday 22nd December

Blue Country

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Thursday 24th December

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Thursday 24th December

Captain Mildreds

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Friday 26th December

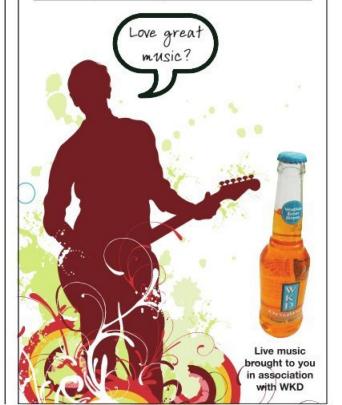
Cold Shots

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Tuesday 29th December

One Love

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335



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ON GENERAL RELEASE

NATIVITY! (U)



Christmas comes early courtesy of British director Debbie Isitt and her improvised comedy about a primary school Nativity. Martin Freeman stars as the teacher tasked with putting on the play.

HARRY BROWN (18)



Sir Michael Caine plays a vigilante pensioner hunting down a gang of council-estate thugs who killed his best friend. The 76-year-old is mesmerising as a war veteran with nothing to lose.

THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (15)



George Clooney stars in The Men Who Stare At Goats, a deranged tale of US servicemen who are trained to become Jedi warriors, capable of killing with mind-power alone. Ewen McGregor co-stars.

Gerard now makes his own laws in Hollywood

BY SUSAN GRIFFIN

WHEN Gerard Butler appeared on screen as King Leonidas in the stylised movie epic, 300, the world sat up and took notice. The fact he was sporting little more than a loin cloth and a six-pack no doubt helped the film gross more than \$450 million at the box office, but it was also his commanding performance that got audiences excited.

Since the film's release in 2007, the Scottishborn actor has gone on to star in the romantic drama, P.S. I Love You; Guy Ritchie's gangster movie, RocknRolla; the romcom The Ugly Truth; and all-action flick Gamer.

Such an eclectic mix of roles has proven Gerard's chameleon-like quality and is one of the reasons he can now command a reported \$15 million per movie.

His box-office clout was a deciding factor in his choosing to produce, as well as star in, his latest movie, a crime thriller called Law Abiding Citizen.

"There comes a time when you get a lot more say in which movies are going to be made, so then you want to be a little more involved and get some credit for it," says Gerard, his Scottish accent still intact despite being based in Los Angeles for most of the year.

He's wearing jeans and a leather jacket, which he removes during the interview to reveal a long-sleeved T-shirt which hints at the impressive physique that made his name.

Candid, chatty and prone to swearing intermittently, he's just turned 40 but looks five years younger.



MORE INVOLVED: Gerard Butler stars in the new movie

In Law Abiding Citizen, Gerard plays Clyde Shelton, an honest, upstanding family man whose life is left in tatters when his wife and daughter are brutally murdered.

Starring opposite him is Oscar-winning Jamie Foxx who plays Nick Rice, a young and ambitious prosecutor.

When Nick cuts a deal that spares one of the killers from death row, it proves a catalyst for Clyde to seek vengeance on the legal system and everyone who has let him down.

Gerard first came across the story for Law Abiding Citizen when a script-writer cornered him and begged him to read his script.

The story may have been pretty raw, but Gerard recognised its potential.

"It was two years of slowly but surely getting

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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this thing going and working on the script and developing it," he says.
"I had so much to do about how the story

"I had so much to do about how the story turned out and in actual fact some of the mistakes that were made were the few areas where I didn't stand up for myself, where I felt I wish I had believed in myself more there and trusted my gut."

He catches himself before divulging what these mistakes were, although he does reveal, "positions were filled but tasks weren't fulfilled".

"That caused the movie to take a lot longer to be made and cost a lot more money than it should have. The strange thing is, when it all came together, every possibility had been analysed a thousand times over, so it felt like it made the movie stronger in the end."



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YOUR TV REVIEW

BY TOM BETTS



NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCKS

BBC2, 10pm, Wednesday

A FEW years ago I would have avoided an episode of Never Mind The Buzzcocks by any means necessary, but it has really kicked on in recent times.

It is hardly must-see TV, but slowly and surely it has become one of the

better comedy shows on the box.

The reason for avoiding it before was not the subject matter, or the team captains, or even the guests.

No, the thing that ruined the show, for 18 long series, was former host Mark Lamarr.

Not only was Lamarr not funny, but he seemed to be a genuinely nasty person, to boot. He took insulting people to a new level and I cannot work out how he never got lumped for being as spiteful as he was.

I often wondered if he was just being nasty for the sake of it, in the absence of anything funny to say, as he tore strips off everyone who dared to speak and answer a question, which can kind of make a quiz pointless.

They say sarcasm is the lowest form of wit... well, that was proven by Lamarr, who ruined from day one what might have been a really good

Simon Amstell, the man chosen to replace Lamarr, guided the ship to funnier waters and, while he was pretty nasty too, at least his cutting lines raised a laugh or two over the course of a few series.

Now, though, the show is helmed by a series of guest presenters, much like Have I Got News For You, and it's working very well.

Angus Deayton is very much missed on HIGNFY, even all these



COMEDY COUPLE: Team captains Phil Jupitus and Noel Fielding of Never Mind The Buzzcocks

years on, but Buzzcocks has flourished with a different person in the chair each week.

Martin Freeman and Dermot O'Leary have all put in decent turns in the hot-seat of late, while new team captain Noel Fielding, of The Mighty Boosh fame, lends a touch of Camden psychedelia to the half-hour.

As a regular fixture in music magazine NME, he at least seems relevant to the essence of the show, that being pop and rock music.

Even man-mountain Phil Jupitus is starting to come out with a few decent gags. Wonders will never cease.

It had the worst of starts, and it kept going for years, but at last this is a show worth watching.

They got there in the end.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRAN



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)
EXERTING power from behind the scenes will be

effective. People are intimidated by your strong personality. Ask a diplomatic Libra to serve as your spokesperson. Of course, you'll have to share your profits with this representative, but the results will be worth it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aquarius 09067-531762

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21) IT'S time to break out of your routine. Although venturing into new territory will be scary, it will also force you to draw upon hidden emotional resources. You're a lot more courageous than you realise. Turn a deaf ear to a colleague's warnings. Your courage can move mountains.

 To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Taurus 09067-531753

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23) YOU'RE giving lots of thought to the sort of work you'd like to be doing in the long-term future. Opportunities related to real estate, politics and construction are highly favoured. Fortunately, you know a powerful executive who can help you break in to such an industry

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Leo 09067-531756



• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Scorpio 09067-531759

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)
SPENDING time with friends will be your biggest priority. Lately, you've been putting the lion's share of your energy into work. While the results have been impressive, you can't help but feel a little lonely. Start making plans to have fun with your nearest and dearest.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Pisces 09067-531763

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22) IT may be necessary to make a decision about a surgical procedure. Your love life is showing signs of strain, mainly because one of you is less invested in the relationship than the other. It may be best to break off this alliance now, before somebody gets really hurt.

• To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Gemini 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23) YOU'LL be making the

social rounds this week. An endless round of parties will crowd your calendar. Be sure to attend as many as possible. If you're single, you could lock eyes with a sexy executive from across a crowded room. This could be a match made in heaven.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Virgo 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov23-Dec21) VOU'RE thinking of ways to make more money.

Finding a way to sell eco-friendly or recycled materials will be a great way to turn a profit. You've always been resourceful, and this will help you get a business off the ground. Friends may not be too enthusiastic about your plans.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Sanittarius 09067-531760

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOU could be asked to lead a project. Conference calls, meetings and late nights at the office could all be in the cards. You may have to issue an ultimatum to a colleague who isn't pulling their weight. In addition, a loved one resents all the time you are spending on your career.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aries 09067-531752

CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23) FORMING an alliance with a seasoned professional will help you move forward. Don't try to represent yourself in court or sell real estate by yourself. An expert will be worth their weight in gold. A relative may be jealous of this alliance because it

keeps them out of the loop. To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Cancer 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct23) FAMILY matters take up

the majority of your time. It's possible you'll be planning a reunion or travelling across country to see some relatives. Powerful memories of childhood motivate you to bring up a painful subject with a relative. Don't be deterred by their anger.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Libra 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20) YOUR commanding personality opens doors that

were previously sealed to you. Take this opportunity to make a presentation to a powerful executive. This man will be impressed by your initiative. If you can't get ahead in your current job, think about quitting and getting another.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Capricorn 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8waye London N7

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CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Frisk a para round wildlife area (6,4)
- 6 Tax man? (4)
- 9 A telephone call in a state of excitement (5)
- 10 Pinched some short measure (4)
- 11 Infernal banker (4)
- 13 Illegally taking the limelight? (8,3,4)
- 14 Drawing a puzzle and giving prize (8)
- 16 Unauthorised publication about robbery at sea (6)
- 18 A jacket not quite on fire (6)
- 19 More whimsical question in a true arrangement (8)
- 22 India was the most highly prized part of the collection (5,2,3,5)
- 24 Lady returning in North America (4)
- 25 Part of eye in art nouveau (4)
- 26 I pull out with one Italian man (5)
- 27 Said amphibian put feet on line (4)
- 28 Unusually wary in predicament, she could be dramatic

- 1 City bird on the water (7)
- 2 Lucky chance of finding ruler in chimney (5)
- 3 Rhythmical rowdy spree (6-6)
- 4 Distressing in Paignton resort (8)
- 5 About to quote or read aloud (6)
- 7 Ruthless shaver? (3-6)
- 8 Cab means to go on track from air-terminal to airstrip (7)
- 12 House that is round? Only half (12)
- 15 Deduction for pension (9)
- 17 Animal born among the gooseberries? (8)
- 18 It has joined from road junction (7)
- 20 Hurry to disturbance and act without restraint (3,4)
- 21 Whine from bridge partners I have left (6)
- 23 Old side yet to be paid (5)



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OUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Good thing (4,2,4)
- 6 Mop (4)
- 9 Famous person (slang) (5)
- 10 Disinclined (4) 11 Tactic (4)
- 13 They flock together (5,2,1,7)
- 14 Not containing milk products (3-5) 16 Make accordant (6)
- 18 Sharp turning (6)
- 19 Canine protecting property (5,3)
- 22 Immediately (2,3,4,2,1,3)
- 24 Egg-shaped (4)
- 25 Surfeit (4) 26 Musical work (5)
- 27 Behalf (4)
- 28 Phrase (10)

DOWN

- 1 French Dominican monk (7)
- 2 Orals (anaq.) (5)
- 3 Very industrious (2,4,2,1,3)
- 4 Highly inflammable composition (8)
- 5 Discharge (3,3)
- 7 Borzoi (9)
- 8 Laurel (3-4)
- 12 MA (6,2,4)
- 15 Prowler (9)
- 17 Joker (8)
- 18 Enthusiastic (7)
- 20 Alight (3,4)
- 21 Long-winded (6)
- 23 Indo-European language (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

8

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No116

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EASY

Answers to all of this week's guizzes can be found on our website

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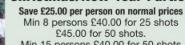
ACROSS: 1 Casca 4 Jet-skier 8 Medicinebottle 10 Long-range 11 Wonky 12 X-ray 13 Coachman 17 Physique 18 Crab 22 Waltz 24 Vouchsafe 25 Overdramatised 26 Oleander 27 Ninth. **DOWN**: 1 Complex 2 Sedentary 3 Accord 4 Janine 5 Tabletop 6 Katowice 7 Ellen 9 Cyan 14 Mortal sin 15 Pizzeria 16 Quivered 17 Pawn 19 Breadth 20 Murmur 21 Photon 23 Level.

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No.116

18 Zealous 20 Get down 21 Prolix 23 Hindi. 12 Master of Arts 15 Mighthawk 17 Quipster 4 Wildfire 5 Let off 7 Wolfhound 8 Bay-tree DOMAK: T recopill 5 Polet 2 We prey as a bee Clut 26 Rondo 27 Sake 28 Expression. 2S levO PS terl is to gorb off tA SS gob Mon-dairy 16 Attune 18 Zigzag 19 Guard TO Loth LL Ploy L3 Birds of a feather L4 ACROSS: I Just as well 6 Swab 9 Celeb







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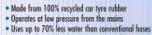
This porous hose is designed to seep water along its entire length, to provide a gentle and precise water supply to garden borders, fruit, vegetables, greenhouses and more, and can be used either on top of the soil or buried.

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90m set comprises 6 x 15m lengths

The hoses can be used separately or joined (fittings included)

Can also be used with a water timer and irrigation system



yourgetaways *

Enjoy a Lille bit of what you fancy

■ BY SHARRON LIVINGSTON

GARISH pink and silver curtains drew open, drums rolled and out came the dancing girls. A moment later the compeer asked the audience (in French): 'anyone here from Pas de Calais?' Hands went up accompanied by cheers. 'Étrangers bienvenus' – welcome strangers – he chuckled.

Strangers? We were enjoying a dinner/cabaret at La Palace Prestige, av du People Belge, (think mini Moulin Rouge) in Lille, located in Northern France, bordering Belgium. It's a hop and a skip from Pas De Calais and a 40-minute dash from Calais by car, yet for the Lilloise, anywhere outside the city limits is a different country.

Twenty years ago it was a run-down industrial town but a group of companies including Auchan and Le Redout funded a city-wide facelift to reveal a quaint, cobbled, medieval city with a distinct Flemish flavour that permeates everything from local Chiti dialect ('sh' sounds and rolling 'r's), white beers that taste like Belgian Hoegaarden, estaminets (Flemishstyle restaurants serving rustic Flemish food) to beautiful Flemish renaissance architecture.

The best example is at Grand'Place (aka Place du General du Gaul who was born here in 1890). The 17th-century Vieille Bourse is a quadrangle of 24 ornate houses surrounding a courtyard where trading took place.

Second-hand book- and flower-sellers gather daily beneath the cloisters, while groups of chess-players meet (if you fancy a game, take a seat) for daily tournaments.



AT THE CENTRE: There's plenty to see and do in France's third largest city, including great food and designer shopping

Lille – France's third largest city after Paris and Lyon – is famous for designer shopping. Hermès, Louis Vuiton and Lacoste have taken root in rue de la Grande Chaussée mingling with smaller boutiques in Lille's oldest street, rue de la Monnaie. Printemps (think Debenhams) is on rue Nationale and the soulless Euralille shopping mall by the Eurostar terminal offers 150 shops.

Eating out in Lille is a joy. Michelin starred A l'Huîtrière, rue des Chats Bossus, is a favourite. At its front is a fish shop that thinks it's an art gallery – art-deco style with splendid mosaics of fishermen at work

The restaurant at the rear offers fish dishes such as its signature dish of turbot in potato crust with butter.

If it's tea-time, there's no better place than Meert patisserie, on rue Esquermoise. Its filigree interior leads the way into a coffee shop where they serve their feted waffles (gauffres) filled with sweet Madagascar vanilla. Charles de Gaulle would buy a box or two of them to present as gifts to visiting dignitaries.

You can find out more about Charles de Gaulle at the Musée Natale du Général de Gaul museum, 9 rue de Princesse.

This was his former childhood home and as well as insights into what made him tick, you'll see the room he was born, his cot and even the robe in which he was baptised. Just around the corner is the St Etiene church where baby de Gaulle got to wear it.

Don't miss the Palais des Beaux-Arts at Place de la République. Second only to the Louvre in Paris, this magnificent building houses prestigious collections of paintings, sculptures and ceramics. Allow two hours to enjoy works by Donatello (in particular the Feast of Herod sculpture), Toulouse-Lautrec, Rubens, Rodin and Delacroix and the impossibly romantic The Kiss by Carolus-Duan.

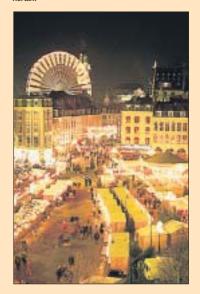
Perhaps more compelling is the factory stores at L'Usine. More than 200 brands are on sale at 70 per cent off retail prices. Best buys are at the Delsey luggage store, at Valery Bijoux for discounted jewellery and watches by designers Guess. Diesel and Dolce & Gabbana.

FACT FILE: LILLE

Time difference+1 hourLanguageFrenchCurrencyApprox 1.1 Euro to £1Population1.1 millionReligionRoman Catholic

Getting there

Getting there is easy. From London hop on the Eurostar from St Pancras, but it's for foot passengers only. If shopping is on the agenda, you will want to take your car. Sharron Livingston traveled with P&O www.poferries.com from Dover to Calais and from there take the motorway direct to Lille. Useful sites: www.lille-guide.co.uk; www.tourismengetfr



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HELP required with service? 0871 220 9205



WOMEN seeking men

AS GOOD AS IT GETS Bubbly

AS GOOD AS IT GETS Bubbly chatty female, 25, 53", nice personality, loves singing, music, socialising, pubs, reading, cinema, meals out; seeks attractive black male 37-43for fun and laughter. Leeds. Box 321556
GOOD THING GOING
Professional female, 29 enjoye foot.

GOOD THING GOING
Professional female, 29, enjoys foot-ball, badminton, cinema & socialising, seeks fun, outgoing, honest & caring male. Leeds. Box 648195

●

HERE'S HOPING Blue-eyed girl,
31, friendly, outgoing, loves the outdoors and meals out, enjoys meeting
new people, looking for friendship
maybe a relationship. Box 875762

30, blonde, blue eyes, likes poetry, theme parks, nights in, walking, live bands, seeks a loving man to settle down with. York Box 459589

TH MUST BE LOVE Single mum, 31, student, enjoys running, swimming, camping, going out/staying in, looking for nice down-to-earth bloke single dads welcome- must be a no smoker. Bradford. Box 865407 €

READY FOR THIS? 34yrs, 5ft 7ins blonde hair, green eyes, cute, friendly, fun, generous single girl for over a year now. Ready to find someone special. Box 874273

BE MINE Single, outgoing female, 34, 511", looking for a nice, easygoing guy to share fun times and maybe more. Selby Box 458161

more. Selby Box 458161

IN THE CARDS Very social woman, 35, 5'3", brown hair, green eyes, likes the outdoors, cinema, looking for friendship and more. Bradford. Box 460554 ①

CALL ME! Single mum, 35, 5ft7, blonde hair, seeking a good honest gentleman with decent values and a positive outlook for a lasting relationship. York Box 461168

WHO KNOWS? Single mum, 35, looking for a single dad to share some time with, maybe it could be something lasting? I like cooking, socialis-ing, outdoors. York. Box 868730

Ing, outdoors. York. Box 868/30

GET THE PHONE Quite attractive female, 36, 51", average build, blonde, enjoys live music, pub quizzes & holidays, seeks tall, dark-haired male, for all this & more. York Box

SOUND GOOD? Fun-loving female 36, 5'4" medium build, sporty, shy, likes dogs, looking for male company Bradford. Box 460660 ONE IN A MILLION Friendly, sin

ONE IN A MILLION Friendly, single mum, 5ft5, brown eyes/dark hair. I like cinema, bowling, girls nights out. Looking for a genuine bloke for friendship, maybe more later. Halifax. Box 457076 HOLD MY HAND Shy lady, 35

5ft5, dark hair and eyes, single, likes going out, pictures, music and more, seeks similar male for hopeful HELLO! Attractive female, 43, 5ft5, romance. Box 457149

HEELS & WELLIES Honest, inde-pendent female, 37, 57", blonde, attractive, n/s, likes meals out, walks, country pubs, wine bars, seeks like minded male for relationship. Malton Box 762305 **⊕** BETWEEN US Beautiful female, 44, SHOW ME HEAVEN Brunette, 37,

green eyes, likes socialising and meals in quiet pubs, WLTM a kind and caring man, 37-45. Leeds Box 869944 •

869944 **⊕ COUNTRY LOVER** Hi, I'm an attractive, intelligent woman, with a wicked sense of humour. I'm 38, 5ft7, dark hair/blue eyes, and live in Bishop Auckland. Box 453919 **⊕**

A LADY TO LOVE Yorkshire lass, 40, a mum, blonde with blue eyes, 5ft5, medium build, loves swimming, eating out and dancing, WLTM gen-uine fun-loving male. Box 452268

to your mobile.
(Saving you both time and mones in your search for romance). HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Bubbly lady, 39, 5ft2, medium length blonde hair/blue eyes, slim, very GSOH, loves DVDs, cinema and all music; seeks likewise male for good times...Bishop Auckland. Box 460583

TWO TO TANGO Well travelled, smart, sprightly mum of one, 42, 5ft11, dark hair with blue eyes, hard working woman, looking for a independent, tall, like minded man. Selby Box

RECIPE FOR LOVE County
Durham female, 42, medium build. Durham female, 42, medium build, glasses, blonde hair. I'm a widow and would like to meet a genuine man. I enjoy cooking, swimming, shopping. Box 461220 •

MOVING ON UP Hi there I'm a 42 year old swimmer, love shopping, am a widow, just looking for someone to share my life with again. Crook. Box 455146 By 455146



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A BETTER TOMORROW

Interesting woman, 42, medium build, 5ft4, blonde/blue eyes. I enjoy music, cinema, nights out, countryside, sports, cosy nights in, WLTM animal-loving gent, with similar tastes. Malton. Box 461256

MANY INTERESTS Single, black mum, 5ft6, medium build, 43, brown eyes/black hair. I'm hoping to meet someone for friendship, and hopefully LTR. Box 453905

PUPPY LOVE? Fun loving & caring 8 year old looking for my soulmate, enjoys socialising, meals out & weekends away, looking for genuine male for friendship,..hopefully more! Box 876111

brown hair/eyes, enjoy spending time with friends, looking for a tall, genuine guy, 35-45, for a meaningful relationship. Bradford Box 462457

■

5ft3, blonde, blue eyes, slim build, likes sports, music, eating out, reading, looking for a genuine male for friendship and more. Keighley Box 455173

■

GENUINE AND RESPECTFUL 45yr old woman, dark hair/eyes, medi um build. I like walking, countryside. Seeking man with a GSOH and good personality, someone honest and gen-uine. Box 455309 ①

LOCKING FOR A DANCE PARTNER 45 year old friendly lady who loves to do many different things including dancing, cinema, theatre quizzes, days and nights in or York area. Box 868052 ① ② or out.

Alerts & Matches

smoker, 45, likes reading, TV, films; WLTM guy with GSOH who likes animals. Bishop Auckland. Box 458690 FINGERS CROSSED Female

HERE AND NOW Hello I'm a 45

SHALL WE BE SOCIAL? Slim female, 45, 5'10", blonde, enjoys dog walks, car boots, meals out & socialis-ing, seeks male 6'+, similar interests, for friendship maybe more. York. Box 972442 &

972442 The Style Brunette, medium build, brown eyes. I'm a 44yr old woman and enjoy going out, nights ine dancing and socialising. Bradford based. Box 457198 FOR GOOD Styl lady, 44, gsoh, likes line dancing, cinema and socialising, looking for a man with similar interests for friendshipfelationship. Bradford Box 457536 FOR STREAM CONTRACT STREAM CO

MAKE A MOVE Hello I'm a lady in

darlington county Durham. I like dancing and music looking for a fun man that has the right moves. Box 457867 BE YOURSELF Blonde woman, 46,

blue eyes, enjoys dining out, holidays, cosy nights in, looking for an honest, fun and genuine male. York Box MOVE OVER, DARLING Recently divorced female (not bitter!), 47, loves animals, walks and more, seeks male with GOSH who's genuine and up for

with GOSH who's genuine and up for love. Darlington. Box 460428
HOPING 4 YOU Sincere, caring female, 47, own home, loves indoor sports and the outdoors, seeks decent fella, to share quality time, laughter and perhaps romance. Box 456219

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Seeking that special someone, a loving, caring, honest man. I'm an attractive woman, 47, 5tfl, with blonde hair. Allerton (bradford). I love travel, dancing and walking. Box 458192

HURT IN THE PAST Lovely, bubbly woman, 48, divorced, grown up kids. Looking for genuine, loving, tall man. Box 457533

ONLY YOU Tall and attractive blonde, 48, divorced, well dressed,

ONLY YOU Tall and attractive blonde, 48, divorced, well dressed, looking for a tall and handsome guy, 41-52. Ilike music, holidays and weekends away. York Box 461476 € WITHOUT YOU Divorced woman, 48, 57", blonde hair, blue eyes, likes reading, walking, music, nights in and out, seeks carriip honest male for friendship and more. Box 927648 €

R U THE 1 4 ME? Bubbly but a litthe bit shy woman, 49, likes socialising, eating out, concerts, cinema, looking for a male to get to know better. Halifax Box 457378 •

GENUINE AND SINCERE? Hi I'm Anne, 49, brown eyes and dark hair, slim, hard working, likes socialising, pubs, love dancing; WLTM someone to enjoy a meal and show...York. Box

A WHOLE NEW WORLD Cuddly brunette, 50, 5ft7, gsoh, likes walking, dog owner, loves music, looking for a happy man with gsoh to start again with. Darlington Box 871616

START THE CHATTER

Text KOS to 81188

Charges: 35p each message you send. Forwarded messages and requested matches: 75p incl VAT.

Animal lover with two dogs, 50, 5f11, blue eyes, slim, loves outdoor/farm life, cuddles and music, Wltm a man to settle down with. County Durham Box 455269 •

NORTHERN STAR 48yr old female, olive skin, likes socialising, the odd drink, lots of love to give for the right man-must be asian/middle eastern. Bradford Box 454880 **① LET'S TALK** Slim attractive female.

51, 5'5. Honest, loyal and caring. Lives in Darlington. Smoker. Loves music, films, reading and holidays. Looking for friendship and possible LTR. Box 872820

EIH. BOX 8/Z820

SEEKING SOUL MATE Seeking a single man, caring, honest and romantic. I enjoy holidays abroad, eating out. I'm very laid back woman (52), and looking for similar. Bradford. BOX 873033

(52), and looking for similar. Bradford. Box 873035 "ThIS WAY... Attractive female, 51, 5110, brunette, medium build, very GSOH, loves music, stand-up comedy, music, cinema and dogst Seeks like-minded tall males for friendship/relationship. Newton Ayciffle. Box 462866 "FROM ME TO YOU Loving sharing lady, 51, 518, long dark hair, likes most things in life, WLTM someone special to enjoy life and fun with. Selby. Box 456493 "O GOSH! Lovely lady, 51, very young outlook, positive, bubbly, short bobbed hair, attractive, very GSOH, loves getting out and about, seeks likewise tall male for companionship. Box 457315 "MY MIND ON YOU Bubbly lady,

MY MIND ON YOU Bubbly lady. 51, 5ft6, blonde, slim, looking to meet a guy who likes travel and meals out

for initial friendship and then more.
Bradford. Box 459834

ZEST FOR LIFE Slim female, 52, blonde, loves walking, keeping fit, lovely holidays, dining out, seeking a trusting, affectionate, and caring male

Box 461613 **①**SHOW YOU CARE Honest, caring female, 54, slim build, blonde, N/S, GSOH, likes the countryside & animals, seeks tall, caring guy, for nights in & out. Darlington. Box 467547 **①**MAKING THE MOST OF IT Perfessional 54rv did female, 517

Professional 54yr old female, 5ft7, friendly, outgoing, medium build, loves animals, meals out, holidays abroad, WLTM a tall gent, solvent, for company and more. Bradford Box 462678

SOCIAL SORT Friendly female, a mum, with a GSOH. I'm 54, 5ft1, and love animals, meals out, swimming etc.,WLTM genuine man to socialise with. York. Box 461902 with. York. Box 461902 U
THE SOCIABLE SORT Sociable

lady, 54, likes good conversations, always up for a laugh, looking for a like-minded guy to hang out with. Huddersfield Box 457368 ①

Huddersfield Box 457368 ⊕
LOOKING FOR TLC Lady in her
50's, blonde hair/blue eyes, kind, caring, romantic, likes meals out and cinemas, seeking a good guy that enjoys
the same. Darlington. Box 453696 ⊕
COME INTO MY WORLD Fun-loving, independent, young at heart lady,
58, enjoy travelling, walking and
swimming, WLTM a similar man for
friendship, possibly leading to a LTR.
Bradford Box 461152 ⊕

MUST LOVE LIFE Fun-loving female, 59, 54", fair hair, medium build, gsoh, enjoys films, music, seeks an easy going man 50-62, who is kind and caring. York Box 462036 LOVE AND AFFECTION Domantic affectionate, young looking.

LOVE AND AFFECTION
Nomatic, affectionate, young looking
female, 59, 5ft2, slim. I like cooking,
meals out, country drives, WLTM
genuine, non-smoking gent.
Darlington area. Box 456332
▼
STILL SEARCHING... A libra, I'm
a genuine lady, 58, 5ft2, looking for
genuine man to share my life with.
Are you out there? Box 457515

■

HELP ME FIND LOVE AGAIN

Compassionate lady, 60, works in medicine, lots of love to give, seeks a kind and considerate male in the Shipley, Bradford, or Lancashire area. Box 461955 •

ATTRACTIVE, Tall, stylish, happy, young 60yr old, n/s, gosh, seeks honest, caring non-smoker, similar age, retired or semi retired, for happy time together. York Box 456571

together. York Box 456571 6
HOW CAN WE BE WRONG?
Aftractive, lively, sociable lady, 60, 52°; younger in looks and personality, loves dancing, theatre, cinema, quizzes and travelling, would like companionship and fun. County Durham. Box 875882 6
FRIENDSHIP FIRST Sim, smart, attractive lady. 62, 52° no lies

attractive lady, 62, 52°, no ties, works, own home and car, likes live music, dining out, good conversation, seeking a genuine, similar male, Darlington. Box 461999 CUDDLES NEEDED 63 vr old. N/S, redhead, many interests includ-

ing gardening and sewing would like to meet male 60+ for friendship and maybe more Box 875863 HOPING TO HEAR... Attractive lady, blonde, 60, nice personality, enjoys most things, seeks male, 56-70, for a warm, caring friendship/relationship. Box 876574 •

nights in/meal out. Bradford. Box 460520 © IN PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS Tactile female, 60s, youthful and attractive, WITM smart, active, social, sincere male, 60s, to share interests in music, dancing, travel and much more. County Durham Box 455943

JUST FRIENDS Looking for a friend, I'm a 66yr old woman, with a GSOH. I enjoy camping/caravanning, holidays, meals out, and just looking for male company. Baildon. Box 456385

 OWEN CALL PAM Owen, North Vorter, who responded to B.

Yorks, who responded to Pam, please get back in touch as she took down your number incorrectly. Thanks. Box 533588 ①

THAMBLE SUSCESSES THE STATE OF THE STATE OF

621587 **U**LOVE AT LAST Young-looking and acting lady, 69, 5'3", blue eyes, blonde, looking for a nice, nonsmoking gentleman for companionship and ing gentleman for companionship more. Wetherby Box 461163

Women seeking women

A DAY OUT 22yr old female, 5ft, likes pubs, clubs, reading, socialising, WLTM like-minded female, N/S, for fun-loving relationship. Bradford Box 454911

A BIT OF A DIFFERENCE 41yr

old slim, attractive female, blonde, very down-2-earth, enjoy days out, meals out, walks, spiritualism, ani-mals, WLTM a like-minded, homely, feminine female. Bradford Box 455788 **①** SAY YOU'LL BE THERE

Feminine slim female, 43, 5ft5, blonde, blue eyes, likes good conver-sations, shopping, seeking a sweet female for fun and friendship. Bradford Box 456633 1



MEN seeking women MAYBE BABY Bradford male, 34, medium build, 5ft8, black hair, looking for a nice female for friendship, maybe a relationship. I enjoy going for walks, cinema etc. Box 462815

for walks, cinema etc. Box 462815 €
CENTS PREFER BLONDES
American male, 34, looking for a nice, loving lady, prefer blondes with a nice figure, for fun times. Box 462911 €
BY THE FIRE Easygoing, friendly single dad, 35, enjoys football, winebars, eating out, holidays & cosynights in, looking for fun-loving, easygoing female for a brighter future. Beverley, Box 462478 €
LET'S SEE Good-looking asian male, 36, looking for fun leosain

male, 36, looking for a nice asian male to get to know better and see how things go. Bradford Box 462814

how things go. Bradford Box 462814

PERFECT F1T? Shy, stocky lad,
58" would like to meet someone spe-cial with the same interests, I like
football, dvds fishing, cooking, court
by walks and pubs. Box 889095

SHOW ME AROUND Male new to
Scarborough area, 38, self employed
and works hard, likes travelling,
seeks lady to travel with and hopefulby find love. Box 869437 © Q

A BIT SHY..... Professional 37yr
old man, 5fl11, bit of a belly, gsoh,
into music, play the guitar, looking to
meet a lady of similar age. York Box
460016 Q

CUDDLES ON OFFER Bradford
bloke, 38, 5fl9, brown hairfeyes, likes

bloke, 38, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, likes cars, motorsports, going to the picture, seeking a genuine female for a serious relationship. Box 459581 ① Senous relationship. Box 499581 **

FIELDS OF GOLD Good-looking male, 38, into going out, keeping fit, reading, days out, countryside & driving. Seeks nice, easy-going female, 28-45, for fun & romance. Bradford.

28-45, for fun & romance. Bradford.

Box 148700

A HIGHER LOVE Well-travelled male, 37, 65°, likes swimming, walking, cinemar, restaurants, nights in/out & world travel, WLTM female for friendship, perhaps more. York. Box 301864

MISS THIS, MISS OUT Goodlooking man, 40, into martial arts, seeking lady for nights out, evenings in, good conversations and hopefully a LTR. Bradford Box 876095 •

MAYBE THIS TIME Hi. I'm David. 39, 5ft9, a bit shy, gsoh, likes music, cinema, walking, WLTM a non-smoking female, 30-39, for a lasting relationship, Box 454836 1

tonsnip. Box 454836 **U**EXPRESS YOURSELF Honest
male, 41, dog-lover, likes socialising,
cinema, reading & walks, seeks honest lady for honest expression of feelings & more. York. Box 911015 TRUE ROMANCE Male, 41 looking for a lady to share nights in and out with. I'm into travel and seeking possible long term relationship. York. Box 867421

867421

SHY GUY Caring, loving male, 40, own home, GSOH, likes pool/snooker, football, pubs, clubs, beach walks, seeks genuine female for LTR.

Bradford. Box 458366

READY FOR LOVE? Nice guy looking for nice lady...I'm 41, very outgoing, humorous with positive outlook, many normal interests, seeking lady of any description to get to know...Bradford. Box 461380

TABLE FOR TWO Attractive asian male, 42, long hair, likes good wine, keeping fit, clubbing, looking for a nice female to share nice evenings out with. Box 456746 • SING YOUR HEART OUT I'm

male, 43, 5ft8, slim , blue/green eyes.
Hove music, drawing/painting, films, meals out, cosy nights in. Bradford.
Seeking nice female, preferably a singer. Box 462238

MAKE A FRIEND Male with a gsoh, 43, seeking a fun lady 43-50 in Bradford. Box 461299 ①

FOLLOW THE SUN Caring, honest male, 43, 6', loves going out, movies, restaurants, sunshine & travel, seeks genuine female, age unimportant, for companionship+. York. Box 393904 THE SEARCH Divorced white male, 45, looking for fun times with a lovely female. Cleckheaton. Box 462902 €

LET'S DO IT, LET'S FALL IN LET'S DO IT, LET'S FALL IN LOVE! FUNDing 45yr old self-employed man, like football, socialis-ing, pubs/clubs, looking for a woman who is fun to be with and knows how to enjoy life. Box 452693 NO TIME TO WASTE Active male, 44 medium build 57" non-smoker

44, medium build, 57", non-smoker, blue eyes, like meals out, a drink, seeking a woman, 30-42, for friendship, single mums welcome. Bradford Box 460078 •

HERE WE GO Genuine honest auv 45, 6ft2, slim-medium build with dark hair, n/s, likes nights in and out, seeks similar lady for love. Bradford. Box

STRIBLI BAY ON THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

A HOME BIRD Handsome man,

A HOME SIRU Handsome man, 5f111, nice smile, no ties, n/s, caring, honest, romantic, enjoy music, sport, country/seaside, looking for a home-loving sincere female for a relation-ship. York Box 454573

ship. York Box 454573

ENJOY YOURSELF Leeds lad, originally from Scotland. I'm looking for fun female who doesn't take life too serious. I'm 49, and I enjoy life. Box 456053 ⊕ ⊕

IS THAT YOU? Laid back guy, easygoing and quite attractive. I'm 50, and enjoy cinema, reading, holidays, music, WLTM honest, attractive, genuine lady in the York area. Box 459197 ⊕

LIFE BEGINS NOW Divorced man, 56°, 49 years old, love travel, dinino.

Fig. 49 years old, love travel, dining, out I enjoy being out and about, caring and honest, looking for ladies in Bradford. Box 458450

■ Tradford. Box 458450

Bradford. Box 458450 W

SWEET LIKE CHOCOLATE

Young looking 50, I'm a single, easygoing, genuine guy, no ties. I like
nights in/out, sport, WLTM nice, honest woman in the West Yorkshire
area. Box 460191 ①

PERSONALITY COUNTS Smart male, 53, slim, fit and active, wears glasses, clean shaven, seeks African/Indian/Asian woman, 18-65, looks unimportant, for a good, happy life. Bradford. Box 460811 •

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING Level headed, broad minded, decent looking male, 53, WLTM a fun-loving, feminine female to wine, dine and woo.

nine female to wine, dine and woo. York Box 867921 **⑤**ALL **TO COME** Hi all I'm Dave, 55 from York, 5fl8, stocky, green eyes, short hair, hard working, like swimming and walks, WLTM social lady for obential romance. Box 459015 **⑥ LOOKING FOR YOU!** Loyal, active gent with a GSOH. Im 58, down-to-earth and warm hearted. I like golf, keeping fit, trips away, pubs meals etc. York based. Box 458868 **⑥** etc. York based. Box 458868 1

MAKE A FRIEND Widowed gent, 58, 5ft4, GSOH, likes meals out, walks, films, music, cosy nights, gar-dening, seeking a similar woman for friendship. York. Box 461698 **⊕** HI! Fun-loving male, 58, short brown/gray hair, med build, 5ft7, looking for an attractive slim female for good times, maybe something long term. Box 864813

STEP-UP! Widow dad, 58, 5ft5, GSOH, likes meals out, walks, films, music, cosy nights, gardening and dancing, WLTM warm-hearted woma for LTR. York. Box 875848 TIME TO MOVE ON Genuine

TIME TO MOVE ON Genuine male, 55, large build, enjoys meals out, holidays, pub quizzes, seeks friendly, affection female, for an honest relationship. Box 801281

EXCEPTIONAL LOVE Exceptional man 50 seeks exceptional woman

man, 59, seeks exceptional woman, 45-55, to increase happiness levels in his life. Box 876389

his life. Box 876389 DELOKING FORWARD Great guy, York based. I'm 60, 5lft1, well built, fit. I'm divorced (grown up kids), and looking for a fresh start, and hopefully romance. Box 461234 DELAPPY TIMES Warm hearted loving male, 60, young outlook, tall and silm, looking for a nice, silm attractive lady, 612-5lf6, 55-56, to share a hearny life with York Pox 453906

happy life with. York Box 459306

ETERNAL FLAME Silver fox, 65, blue eyes, likes trips to the coast, home life, holidays abroad, WLTM a nice, calm and considerate lady for friendship, hopefully more. York Box 454363

year old male, 6ft, own flat and would like to meet similar aged lady for friendship, outings etc. York, Box 868324

Men seeking men

BIG FUN Fun, overweight male, 38, into most things, searching for active male, for friendship and more. Keighley. Box 453700

123184 **G GET BACK TO ME** Stocky male, 52, 51to, looking for friendship/relationship with an older man. I'm fun, friendly and reliable. Bradford Box 451404 **G**

friendly and reliable. Bradford Box 461424 **⊕ FIT THE BILL?** I'd like to meet a male for fun and friendship. I'm an outgoing, healthy and fit guy, 58. Bradford area. Box 456992 **⊕ GIVE ME YOUR LOVE** Feminine

happy male, 59, seeking a fit and active male for companionship an love, York Box 460414 1

etc. York based. Box 458868 • Iove. York Box 460414 • TEXT REPLY: For your protection, you will not be allowed to swap contact details until you have exhanged five messages each. GIDIDELINES: Private individuals seeking long-term, monogamous relationships may advertise in yourkenidating. We suggest that ads contain a self-description, age range, and lifestyle description. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any adfor any reason. Ads may not be submitted by persons younger than 18 years of age for publication in yourkentdating. Also, no ads will be published seeking persons younger than 18 years of age. DISCLAIMEE: KOS Media assumes no liability for the content of or reply to any personal advertisement. The advertiser assumes complete liability for the content of all replies to any advertisement or recorded messages and the state of the content of all replies to any advertisement or recorded messages and the state of the state of the content of all replies to any advertisement or recorded messages to the state of t

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PROPERTY NEWS

Builders to focus on houses as demand falls for apartments

BARRATT Developments is to focus on building houses rather than apartments, in response to lenders' preferences.

The group's chief executive, Mark

Clare, says the company will build what it knows it can sell and in the case of apartments, lenders are making life difficult for mortgage borrowers by asking for deposits of 25 per cent.

The oversupply of new-build apartments in the UK's city centres has been causing problem for banks and building societies since the onset of the credit crisis, with evidence that some properties were deliberately overvalued in largescale mortgage scams.

Buy-to-let investors in particular were encouraged into the market and since the property downturn, some apartments have lost 50 per cent of their

The company has also revealed that overall its private reservation rates per site have been running 34 per cent ahead of last year.

Furthermore, cancellations were down to 13 per cent for the period July 1 to November 8 2009, compared with 23.7 per cent in the same period of 2008

Lettings company is ready to expand its internet business

LETTINGSEARCH.CO.UK announced it is set for further expansion across the UK's major towns and cities.

The firm, which claims to be the country's largest lettings-only portal, has secured increased funding to back a substantial expansion of its agent and tenant base over the next six months.

Established in 2002, Lettingsearch currently lists about 250,000 properties and averages more than one million tenant searches a month.

Agents can list any number of properties for a flat fee per branch, with no setup costs or minimum period of advertis-

Furthermore, landlords approaching the site are redirected to appropriate let tings agents, providing an additional income stream for small and large agents alike



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There's light at the end of tunnel, say agents

BY **NICK AMES**

LEADING estate agents Strutt & Parker revealed a sharp drop in profits in its first results since converting to limited liability partnership status in May 2008.

Profits available to partners dropped 79 per cent from £16 million in 2008 to £3.3 million. Revenue was down by a quarter, from £86.3 million to £64.9

However, the first six months of the current financial year have shown an improvement. The firm made a profit of £4.8 million, compared to £500,000 at the half-year stage last year.

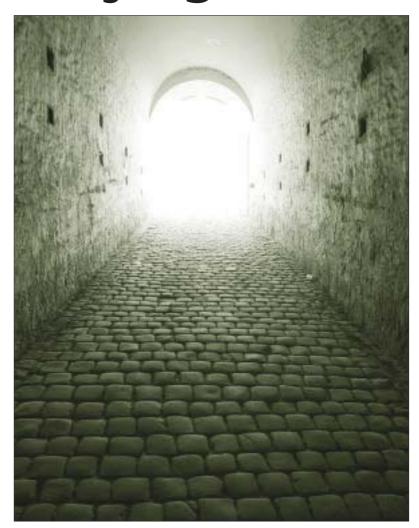
The company also says the better economy, as well as the significant saving it has made, should go some way towards recovering its performance, especially as the market appears to be regaining some level of optimism

Senior partner Andy Martin said: "The year to April 30 we view as very much history, particularly as we have seen a good improvement in our recent results in particular the London residential team which has reported its strongest trading month ever in September.

"We, along with our competitors, faced a very tough trading environment with transactional business slowing for the last quarter of '08 and first quarter of '09. However, as with all diverse businesses, some parts performed exceptionally well whereas other parts struggled.

"Significant cost reductions and efficiencies were made during the year to adjust operating costs and these mean that as a firm we have a better platform for this market to enable us to continue to improve profitability.

"In financial terms, although it is too early to call the end of what has been the sharpest decline in values in living memory, the 2009/10 financial year has started better, with all areas of the business ahead of budgets at the six-month stage. We have maintained a high profile in our markets and have continued to build teams in important



Sharp rise in empty homes 'reflects deprivation'



ACCORDING to the latest Halifax Empty Homes Survey, the number of private homes empty for at least six months soared by nine per cent during the year to April 2008.

The figure went up to 303,285, a level not seen since April 2003. The bank said the latest figures mean that 1.6 per cent of all privately-owned properties in England were empty.

Furthermore, the Halifax said when homes unoccupied for less than six months were included in the total, the figure rose to 613,270.

Properties are classed as being empty if they have been vacant for more than six months because they are between occupants, undergoing

modernisation, or in disrepair.

And the Halifax highlighted levels of deprivation were typically higher in areas that had a high proportion of vacant properties.

Suren Thiru, of the Halifax, said: "It is concerning that there are more than 300,000 private homes in England that have been empty for more than six months and the number has increased, following several years of decline.

"Often, high levels of long-term empty homes reflect relatively high levels of deprivation, low average earnings and high unemployment."

ISCOVER HOW ONE ESTATE IN THE COUNTY IS BEING **REGENERATED. SEARCH STANHOPE** @ propertyforkent.co.uk

258b

HFP03050



valuations







FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02526

- 3 Bedrooms top floor flat
- Views over Grimston Gardens
- No chain, share of freehold



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 3 bed flat
- Private garden
- Garage



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03111

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Off street parking
- No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03051

- 3 bedroom detached house
- Garage and parking
- Large garden and no chain



HFP03077 **FOLKESTONE OFFICE**

- Three bed town-house
- Integral garageGCH/DG



HFP02972

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 2 bedroom apartment Superb throughout
- No chain



FOLKESTONE

- FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03073
- Extended three bedroom semi detached
- DG/OSPClose to soon coming Folkestone rail link



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03084

- 3 bedroom semi detached
- Off road parking
- Good size rear garden





FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 2 bedroom terrace
- Private rear garden
- No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03058

- 3 bedroom semi detached
- GCH/DG
- Newly fitted kitchen



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03130

- 2 bedroom terrace
- Large rear gardenNo chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03015

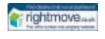
- 2/3 bed terraced

- Superb condition throughout Landscaped garden













FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03118

- 3 bed end terrace
- Private rear garden Summer house

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

Newly built

One bedroom apartment



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- Modern kitchen, new bathroom
- Lounge/Diner and garden





EASTCLIFF £55.000 **FOLKESTONE OFFICE** HFP02082

- Studio flat
- Newly renovated



HFP03117

- 2 bedroom terraced
- Recently renovated
 No chain

Large rooms





4 Bedroom terraced Superb decorative order



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

Newly built

One bedroom apartment



DOVER t 01303 255 335 t 01304 202 111 w milesandbarr.co.uk

HFP02914





HFP02909

essba

HFP03120

HFP03090



valuations





HFP02991



HFP03098

- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE** 2 bedroom apartment
- private balcony
- retirement apartment



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 1 bedroom flat
- No chain
- GFCH



HFP03119

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 1 bedroom flat
- No chainGFCH





HFP03053

- **FOLKESTONE OFFICE**
 - 3 bedroom terraced

CHERITON



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03091

- 6 bedroom semi detached
- Off road parking Viewing advised



FOLKESTONE

FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 4 bedroom terrace
- Close to seafrontGCH & DG



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

HFP02428

- 2 bed retirement home Lift



HFP02671

Four bedrooms, two receptions

Spacious entrance hall

Lounge/dinerGCH & DG Conservatory In Folkestone & Dover we





FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- One bed apartment
- Walking distance to beachOff road parking



- 3 bedroom apartment
- Balcony & sea views
- No chain



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- Metropole Court, The Leas



- FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03114
- 4 bedroom third floor apartment
- Sea views and balconv
- Parking and store room also available



METROPOLE

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03089

£209,995

- 3 bedroom apartment
- Sea views and no chain
- Fully renovated

3 hedroom terrace

GCH/DG

Private rear garden



FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02930

- Three bedroom semi
- Conservatory
- Garage and driveway



FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 3 bed apartment
- Roof terraceFully fitted bar





FOLKESTONE OFFICE

- 3 bed detached bungalow
- No chain
 OSP & single garage





FOLKESTONE OFFICE 3 bed detached bungalow

Sea viewsNo chain





Goina through re-furb









HFP02958



Dover 01304 207099

dover@geeringandcolyer.com

Folkestone 01303 250757 folkestone@geeringandcolyer.com

Kearsney 01304 823714 kearsney@geeringandcolyer.com

New Romney 01797 363194 newromney@geeringandcolyer.com



£215,000 Gateway third floor two bedroom flat. Lounge with archway to dining area. Fitted kitchen. Bathroom.

01304 207099



£250,000 The bungalow offers three double bedrooms. There is also a lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom and sun lounge. The spacious kitchen/diner with integrated appliances.

New Romney 01797 363194



Lounge, Diner, Study Area, Extended Kitchen, Landing, Bathroom/WC. Double glazing and gas central heating.



Folkestone OIEO £144,995 Direct sea views!! Two bedroom apartment in sought after location. Fitted kitchen and lounge / diner. Call now to view!

01303 250757 Folkestone Office



£145,000 Whitfield Two bedroom terrace house with porch, lounge/dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Benefits rear garden, garage en bloc, gas fired central heating & double glazing.

Temple Ewell £210,000 Mid town house with downstairs WC, kitchen/diner, lounge conservatory, master with ensuite, two further bedrooms, bathroom, gardens, with parking for two vehicles.

Move before **Christmas**





£127,500 Two bedroom end of terrace house with large kitchen with French doors leading to enclosed rear garden. Garage en bloc and allocated parking. No chain.

01797 363194



OIEO £153,000 three bedroom semi-detached family home. Lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, lounge, three bedrooms, family bathroom, enclosed rear lawned garden with views.

Dover Office

01304 207099



Ideal family home. Three bedroom end of terrace. Lounge, kitchen and conservatory. Spacious rear garden with side and rear access. Being sold with no forward chain.

Folkestone Office

01303 250757



Lydd £149,995 Extended three bedroom end of terrace family home offering lounge, dining room and study. Master bedroom with dressing area.

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Beat the Stamp

Duty deadline













EAST STUDDAL

Bairstow eves

Dover 01304 201806

dover@bairstoweves.co.uk folkestone@bairstoweves.co.uk

Countrywide

Folkestone 01303 259211

Dover 01304 201806

£265.000

FAST START - The seller of this property has opted for our FAST START package, making the moving timescale much shorter for you - Call for more details.

Situated on the outskirts of the popular village of East Studdal this detached three bedroom bungalow

Offering bright spacious accommodation including a fantastic conservatory to the rear with views over the established garden, making it a perfect place to keep an eye on the bird population.

This home is set back from the road with off street parking for numerous vehicles.

FOLKESTONE

Folkestone 01303 259211

£132.500

FOR SALE WITH NO CHAIN! Two bedroom terrace home ideal for first time buyer. Consisting of lounge, dining room and kitchen on the ground floor with 2 bedrooms and bathroom to the first. Within close proximity to Folkestone Harbour, Creative Quarter and shops. Internal viewing is highly recommended..



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £125,000

hree bedroom semi detached home vith living room, kitchen/diner, off treet parking and front and rear

You can trust us

to sell your home



FOLKESTONE



Folkestone 01303 259211

EAST STUDDAL Dover 01304 201806



SANDGATE



Folkestone 01303 259211





£135,000

Two bedroom terrace house in the popular Whitfield area of Dover. This home has had some minor alterations made to it, to facilitate access.

DOVER



Dover 01304 201806

One bedroom ground floor apartment in the much sought after block The Gateway. Commanding an unrivalled position on the Dover sea front with views of the harbour.

FOLKESTONE Folkestone 01303 259211

West End location, one bedroom, no chain, viewing recommended.

FOLKESTONE Folkestone 01303 259211



This flat comprises: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom/WC. The property is double glazed and is offered for sale with no chain.



Three bedroom family home in popular Cheriton location. Double glazing, gas fired central heating. Internal viewing highly recommended.

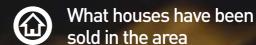


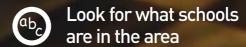


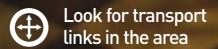


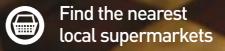
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MOTORS NEWS



Increase in sales sees Jaguar bounding back

JAGUAR is showing its claws again after an impressive 50 per cent leap in November sales against the same month in 2008.

The XK coupé and well-received XF saloon (pictured) led the charge with sales up 78.4 and 149 per cent respectively.

Jaguar UK MD Geoff Cousins said: "The momentum for XF just keeps on

Jaguar UK MD Geoff Cousins said: "The momentum for XF just keeps on going. We have now sold more XF models so far this year, in its second year in showrooms, than we did at the same point in 2008, when we launched."



Chevy pricing sparks a great deal for New Year

SPARKS are set to fly out of showrooms early in 2010, after news that Chevrolet's new city car will be little more expensive than the Matiz it replaces.

Assuming that VAT returns to 17.5 per cent at New Year as planned, the Spark starts at £6,495, for a state-of-the-art mini motor that has just gathered four stars overall and five for child protection in the Euro NCAP safety test.

Order books open next week for Spring delivery, so look for deals on the outgoing



Hyundai gives its Ford Focus rival 2010 update

FAST-growing Hyundai has updated its impressive Ford Focus challenger for 2010.

Still backed by the Korean brand's standard five-year warranty, the i30 five-door and estate range (pictured) features new models, more kit and lower emissions. It goes on sale on January 4 priced from £12,000.

The Classic 1.6 CRDi costs £12,950 – a £1,140 price cut for the cheapest i30 diesel. 'Stop and Go' technology is available as a special order option on i30s to bring tax and fuel savings.



KEEPING TRACK: The Outlander's drive options should outclass rivals such as the Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V with the added extra of locking the car in front-wheel for economy

Outlander gains firm acceptance this time

CURIOUS how two generations of Mitsubishi Outlander have suited the name in contrasting ways.

The original (2004-07) probably invented the term 'crossover' by mixing off-roader and chunky estate, but was doomed to be an 'outlander' with UK buyers – a dipsomaniac 2.0-litre petrol engine was the only power option.

However, its successor fits the Outlander name as Mitsubishi intended, suggesting suitability for life in the country or on the frontier. It is also offered with two diesel options as

well as another thirsty petrol unit, which we'll ignore after this.

The 2.0 DI-D SE (£19,999 and entry model for range) test car has a proven 140bhp VW diesel that can be coarse under acceleration, but pulls well and cruises smoothly thanks to a slick six-speed box.

The alternative is a 154bhp 2.2-litre and I know this is impressive too, having tried it in the Mitsi's Citroën C-Crosser and Peugeot 4007 cloned sisters.

The 2.0-litre Mitsubishi is the cheapest diesel though, starting at £19,999 and now with more standard kit.

ROAD TEST MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER

STAR QUALITY

BY **STEVE LOADER**

Driving appeal	****
Image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Green rating	****

Would-be Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V buyers should also check it out for the ace up its sleeve – a no-cost option of two extra though basic seats.

While I could not test it, the Mitsi's various drive options should outclass the above rivals in gentle off-roading too.

The driver can lock the car in front-wheel drive for economy, though this allows scrabbling if you accelerate too enthusiastically on damp or loose surfaces.

So the preferred default is '4WD auto' – fixed format with most 'soft-roaders' – which is essentially front-wheel drive too, but rear wheels automatically add drive and grip if a loss of traction is sensed at the front; '4WD Lock' does what it says, locking drive to all four wheels for muddy tracks, fields or snowfalls.

Like most 4x4s though, Outlander owners will rarely ask it to flex its muscles, so simply being a classy drive is a big plus; body roll is well controlled for a high vehicle and the car grips and rides with great composure.

It is also a handy MPV too with plenty of stowage and a serious cargo area when all rear seats are folded – this is also easily loaded via a split tailgate.



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SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Linear , 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey, ABS, Air conditioning, Alarm, Alloy wheels, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Park distance control, Traction control.

2004

SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse 2005 05

SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 69,000 miles, Steel Grey. ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats. Traction control. Climate control. In Car Entertainment Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted

SAAB 9-3 2.2 TiD SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 122,000 miles, Metallic blue, 2 Owners. Rear wiper, ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control,

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147, JTDm Ducati Corse Q2 Special Edition, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruis control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, carbonio black metallic, 5000 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, 1.6 TS LUSSO, 2005, abs brakes 1947, 1.0 15 LUSSU, 2UUS, abs Drakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, beige metallic, 33061 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147 TS Lusso 2006 als brakes 147, Ts. Lusso, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isoffix child seat points remote audio controls, grey, 12679 miles, 28000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147 1 9 JTDm 16v DUCATI CORSE alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric window immohiliser metallic naint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tonneau remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls black, 10200 mil nsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147. JTDm Ducati Corse 02 Special conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, carbonio black metallic, 5000 miles, £15000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

147, 1.6 TS LUSSO, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels od player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint 38061 miles, 25000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE) 147. TS Lusso. 2006. abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows fro fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey, 12679 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front for glights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRAD)

A3. TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy A3, 101 Sport, 2004, and brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE) bury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3. Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags , black, 32000 miles, £13000. Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3. TDI Sport. 2004, abs brakes allov wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags po wer steering trip computer remote central locking grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 32000 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobili multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 76754 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate 6500 miles, £21400, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control drivers airbag locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows heated seating immobiliser metallic paint leather interior load liner power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking, black / black, 45800 miles, £15500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3 Sportback, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer, ibis white, 6500 miles, £21400, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI TITANIUM 110 5DR [DPF], ea58axk, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, electric mirrors, remote locking, colour coding body. insurance group:8, blue, 3741 miles, £14490, Crayford, 01322 621667

C-MAX. 1.6TDCI ZETEC 5DB. C-MAX, 1.6TDCI ZETEC 5DR, wv58ezh, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking, radiot/cd, privacy glass, remote central locking, insurance group:7, please contact alistair mcewen, black, 22820 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.8TDCI ZETEC 5DR -BLUET00TH + PARK ASSIST, gk58vir, rear parking sensors, privacy glass, quickclear, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, side airbags, rear headrests, linted glass, traction control. Insurance group:7, please call les belichambers for further details and offers. grey, 15500 niles, £12909, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

ESCORT, lx, 1998, met green, 61000 miles, £800, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

ESCORT. 2000. blue. 75000 miles £1295, Dover, 01304 242324

ESCORT, 1998, green, 86786 miles, £850, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FIESTA. 1.4 zetec 5dr, 2005, silver

FIESTA, 1.25 Style, 2005, jeans, 57239 miles, £4995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, ocean, 0 miles, £11795, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

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FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, moondust silver, 2000 miles, £10995, Tenterden, 01580 765011

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FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia Automatic, 2006 moondust silver, 10000 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia, 2007, moondust silver, 14000 miles, £8495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA 1 6TDCi Zetec Climate 2006 amethyst, 39400 miles, £7495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, avalon, 0 miles, £11795.

FIESTA 1.6 Zetec S.TDCi 2009 abs

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We are looking to recruit exceptional candidates for the above roles to provide support to the Head of Faculty on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidates will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, and have good negotiating/communication skills. The post holders will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Engineering/ Civil Engineering Ref: P0678

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Customer Service Advisor Ref: P0375

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KSRC Technician Ref: P0647

15 hours per week Salary: £18,433 - £22,367 pro rata

We are looking to recruit a science Technician to support the delivery of teaching and training at the Kent Science Resource Centre. The ideal candidate will have good interpersonal skills and a recognised qualification in a related science subject. Proven knowledge of a Biology or Chemistry laboratory environment is essential.

Painter/Decorator Ref: P0335

Salary: £18,433 - £20,974 per annum **Night shifts**

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Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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POWER: Dover used their strength and skill to secure their eighth win in a row in London 1 South

RUGBY

Sharks sail into second place

Dover 27 Beckenham 7

DOVER moved into second place in London 1 South and three points behind leaders Gravesend with a comfortable win against Beckenham at Crabble.

The Sharks had the advantage of the slope in the first-half and started swiftly, but it was the visitors who missed the chance to open the scoring with a wayward penalty attempt.

Dover responded with Nick Ford kicking a penalty on 14 minutes and five minutes later they scored their first try from a scrum on the visitors' 22. The hosts secured the put in and Ben Murray cleverly took an extra step and created a gap for Martyn Beaumont to sprint through and score an unconverted try. The visitors missed another penalty from the restart.

In a bid to try and get back in the game, Beckenham gave away a penalty which led to Dover's second try of the afternoon. Dover decided to take a quick tap and a long miss pass was collected by Ford, who passed through his legs to Ricky Mackintosh, who scored under the posts.

The second-half saw the visitors stage a comeback and for the next 25 minutes Beckenham had all the possession.

The hosts' defence was put under immense pressure, but the forwards helped push Beckenham back and Dover cleared their lines. The game was wrapped up shortly after with two quick-fire tries from Beaumont.

Dover travel to Maidstone this weekend.





ON TARGET: Adam Birchall (pictured) netted a last-minute penalty for Dover to earn his side a point in an enthralling Kent derby at Hayes Lane

icture SIMON HARRIS

Birchall keeps composure to net late Dover penalty

FOOTBALL

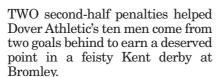
BY TOM HOWARD

Bromley 2

Gillman 17. I'Anson 2



Wallis pen 56, Birchall pen 90



First-half strikes from Rob Gillman and Luke l'Anson and a questionable red card for Dover's Matt Fish left Andy Hessenthaler's side in a precarious position at half-time.

However, an inspired second-half performance with penalties from Jon Wallis and Birchall, earned Dover a point to keep them in second spot in Blue Square South.

Dover assistant boss Darren Hare was delight-

ed with the character shown by his players to come back and earn a point, although he admitted it was hard to stay calm on the sidelines.

He said: "It was a bit of a rollercoaster ride on the bench, it wasn't good for the heart that's for sure. We deserved it in the end. I think the star of the show was the referee, unfortunately. Fish was sent off quite rightly, but other decisions didn't go our way.

"In a way the sending off turned the game in our favour. It was a bit like full circle with Michael Palin, the game came back to us with a dubious penalty at the death to earn us a point. But with ten men we showed real character and how well we can play football."

The Whites made a slow start to the game and Bromley were on top from the whistle and dominated the early exchanges. The home side took the lead on 17 minutes as they capitalised on a slow moving Dover defence. An Ashley Carew free-kick bounced in the area and Gillman stabbed the ball past John Whitehouse.

Dover regrouped, but from their own corner Bromley doubled their advantage. Mark Goldberg's side intercepted a short corner and Ryan Hall sprinted down the other end and crossed for l'Anson, who put the ball into the net.

To make matters worse for Dover, they were reduced to ten men with a debatable straight

Dover Athletic starting XI



Subs used: Davis (Leberl 74), Walder (Collin 43), Hughes (Wallis 74)

red card shown to Fish. Hall slapped the defender in the face in an off-the-ball incident and Fish retaliated, prompting a red card, but there was no booking for Hall.

After a brief scare from Gareth Williams, Dover dominated the second-half and cut the deficit with a penalty on 56 minutes. Shaun Welford was tripped in the area and Jon Wallis slotted the spot-kick into the net.

The visitors continued to create chances but with the game heading towards a 2-1 win for Bromley, Hessenthaler's side were awarded a penalty in the 90th minute. Birchall made no mistake with the penalty, which earned Dover a draw to the delight of the travelling support.

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Games beginning to catch up on the league leaders

FOOTBALL

BY YOURSHEPWAY REPORTER

Horsham YMCA 1



Folkestone Invicta 1

FOLKESTONE Invicta boss Neil Cugley admitted his side looked jaded after only securing a draw at struggling Horsham YMCA.

A late Michael Everitt goal looked to have secured all three points and a fourth win on the bounce for Invicta, but a lapse in concentration gifted Horsham YMCA a share of the points with a 79th-minute equaliser.

Invicta fielded the same starting line-up for

the ninth game in a row and it showed as they struggled to find the form that has guided them to the top of the league. Fatigue also played its part in the first-half, with James Everitt forced off the field clutching his ham-string. Josh Burchall and Simon Austin also picked up injuries and were unable to produce their best on a tough afternoon for Invicta.

Cugley's side improved in the second-half and thought they had opened the scoring through Liam Dickson, but the goal was ruled



ALMOST: Liam Dickson came close to his first goal for Invicta out for off-side. However, with 13 minutes remaining, Folkestone grabbed the lead, with Everitt tapping home from close range. The lead lasted just two minutes, however, as Steve Metcalf capitalised on poor marking to net an equaliser.

With Worthing winning at Chatham, Invicta's lead is now just one point. Cugley

Folkestone starting XI



was disappointed with his side's performance

on Saturday, but felt a draw was a fair result.

He said: "We didn't play enough football, especially in the first half, we just didn't do what we had been doing in the last few weeks." We knew at some time we would get some injuries. We've played the same team for a long time now and I think maybe that showed a bit. We looked a bit jaded, there have been quite a few midweek games in the last few weeks and on the heavy pitches it can drain

"They have picked up some really good results and I'm not that disappointed with the scoreline. To be fair, maybe we just deserved to win, but a draw's not bad, we're still top of the

This Saturday Folkestone host title rivals Walton & Hersham who are fourth in the division. Invicta should have the injured James Everitt available and striker Jimmy Dryden could return to the starting line-up after recovering from an ankle injury.

RUGBY



47

TOUGH DAY: Folkestone struggled to get their kicking game going against a clinical Brighton at the weekend

Injuries play a part in Folkestone defeat

Folkestone 5 Brighton 24

AN injury-ravaged Folkestone side slipped to their seventh defeat of the London South East 3 season at the hands of a clinical Brighton side.

Folkestone were forced to call up a number of academy players for the game, as coach Lee Jeffery was without 12 first-team regulars for the clash. The academy players battled, but they were unable to stop Brighton from completing a comfortable

Brighton's line-out caused Folkestone a number of problems and they opened the scoring with a try from a set-piece. Folkestone failed to learn from the score, as Brighton produced an identical move from another line-out to score a second try.

Folkestone responded shortly after, however, and scored their first try of the game. Jon Morton won the ball from a line-out and he sprinted down the right wing to score. The try was fortunate, as Morton appeared to put a foot in touch during the

With seven points between the two sides at the start of the second-half, Folkestone were eager to score next to cut the deficit.

For the first ten minutes of the period both teams huffed and puffed until Brighton won a line-out on their right wing and completed a catch and drive to score in the corner.

Folkestone's hopes of victory were dashed late on, when Brighton scored their fourth try of the afternoon. The Brighton backs passed the ball out towards the wing and then an inside pass allowed one of their centres to crash through a hole in the Folkestone defence.

Jeffery's side hope to bounce back this Saturday, when they travel to face Old Gravesendians.

LEAGUE TABLES

(not including midweek games) **BLUE SQUARE SOUTH**

1 Newport County	19	13	5	1	+25	44	
2 Dover Athletic	21 20	11	4	6	+11 +7	37 35 34 32 32 31 29 28 28	
3 Woking	20	10	5	6 5 7	+7	35	
4 Chelmsford City	21	10	4 5 5 7		0	34	
5 Thurrock	18 22	9	5	4	+10	32	
6 Basingstoke Town	22	9	5	8	-4	32	
7 Braintree Town	18	8	/	3	+5	31	
8 Bromley	18	8 8 7	5	5	+3	29	
9 Bath City	19		/	4 8 3 5 7	+8	28	
10 Bishop's Stortford	19	8	4	/	+4	28	
11 Welling United 12 Eastleigh	21	8	4	9	-2	28	
13 Maidenhead United	18 21	4	4 5 8	0 7	+0	20	
14 Havant & Waterlooville	18	6	0	4	12	20	
15 St Albans City	20	6	1	0	5	25	
16 Staines Town	19	5	4	4 9 5	0	24	
17 Dorchester Town	20		á	ıı	+4 -2 +8 +3 -5 0	28 26 26 26 25 24 21	
18 Hampton & Richmond Borough	18	6 5 3 4	3 5	11 8	-2	20	
19 Worcester City	20	3	7	10	-6	16 16	
20 Weston-super-Mare	19	4	4	10 11	-10	16	
21 Lewes	19	2	8	9	-14	14	
22 Weymouth	20	2	4	14	-32	10	
DAMAN DIALISION UNE SUITH							

2 Worthing	20	14	1	5	+21	4
3 Godalming Town	18	12	2	4	+16	3
4 Walton & Hersham	19	11	4	4	+9	3
5 Croydon Athletic	17	11	4 5	3	+19	3
6 Fleet Town	18	10	2	6	+12	3 3 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
7 Ramsuate	18	8	4	6	+4	2
8 Merstham	18	8	4	6	+1	2
9 Chatham Town	20	8 8 8	3	6	+1 -3	2
10 Dulwich Hamlet	19	6	7	6	0	2
11 Corinthian-Casuals	19	7	3	9	0 -3	2
12 Metropolitan Police	18	5	7	6	+5	2
13 Sittingbourne	16	6	4	6	+2	2
14 Leatherhead	16	6	3	7	+3	2
15 Burgess Hill Town	16	6	3	7	-1	2
16 Whyteleafe	19	6	2	11	0 -7	2
17 Walton Casuals	18	6	4	9	-7]
18 Horsham YMCA	18	4	7	7	-12	1
19 Eastbourne Town	19	3	6	10	-11 -25	1
20 Whitstable Town	18	4	1	13	-25	1
21 Ashford Town	16	2	5	9	-27	
22 Chipstead	17	4 2 2	4	11	-20	1

VENT LEACHE DREMIED DIVICION

KENT LEAGUE PKI	TIMITER	DIAT	DIOIA			
1 Faversham Town	14	11	2	1	+25	35
2 Herne Bay	12	8	1	3	+10	25
3 Erith & Belvedere	13	8	0	5	+2	24
4 Sevenoaks Town	13	6	3	4	+5	21
5 Hythe Town	11	5	4	2	+16	19
6 Beckenham Town	12	6	1	5	+8	19
7 Tunbridge Wells	14	4	7	3	+3	35 25 24 21 19 19 19 18 18
8 Erith Town	11	5	3	3	+7	18
9 Greenwich Borough	13	5	3	5	-1	18
10 Deal Town	12	4	4	4	-4	16
11 Sporting Bengal Utd	12	4	2	6	-13	14
12 Norton Sports	11	4	1	6	-2 -5	14 13
13 Holmesdale	13	4	1	8	-5	13
14 Fisher	15	3	2	10	-18	11
15 Corinthian	11	2	3	6	-12	9
16 Lordswood	11	0	3	8	-21	3

(Tonight): Kent League: Herne Bay v **Hythe Town; (Saturday):** FA Trophy first round: Havant & Waterlooville v **Dover Athletic;** Ryman Division One South: **Folkestone Invicta** v Walton & Hersham; Kent League, **Deal Town** v Norton Sports, **Hythe Town** v Faversham

Draw for Hythe but Deal power to a home victory

KENT LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Hythe Town O Tunbridge Wells O Deal Town 3 Corinthian 0

SCOTT Porter's Hythe Town missed the chance to put pressure on the top four in the Kent League after being held to a draw by Tunbridge Wells.

A lack of quality in the final third proved crucial for Hythe, as they were unable to find the net for the second week in a row, following a 0-0 draw against Deal Town last week.

A win could have put Town into the top four, but instead Porter will see the game as two points dropped, with Saturday's 0-0 draw keeping Hythe in fifth place in the divi-

Hythe's form in front of goal will have to improve quickly, if they wish to mount a challenge to league leaders Faversham Town, who they face in the cup this weekend. Before Porter's side face Faversham, Town travel to take on fellow high-flyers Herne Bay at Winch's Fields tonight.

Deal Town moved into 10th position after recording a comfortable 3-0 win against Corinthian at the Charles Sports Ground.

Derek Hares' side dominated the early exchanges before taking the lead on 17 minutes through Danny Smith. The midfielder's cross caught the Corinthian goalkeeper off his line and he could only punch the ball into

Mo Takaloo doubled Deal's advantage on the stroke of half-time as he headed home a



ON TARGET: Danny Smith's goal helped Deal Town to a comfortable 3-0 victory at the Charles Sports Ground

Smith cross. Smith and Roy Godden had chances to extend the lead in the second-half, but the points were wrapped up on 68 minutes when Darren Waring slid the ball into the net to make the score 3-0.

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